

# THE TIMES



MONDAY JANUARY 13 1997

Mr P  
ATER P  
he...  
3 Stages  
per year.  
square

785

**TODAY**

**10P**

## THIS WEEK IN THE TIMES

**TODAY**

**PETER RIDDELL**  
Starts the week in politics, page 18

**NEW JOB**  
Every day this week  
**PLUS**  
Melvyn Bragg, page 16

**TOMORROW**

**NEW JOB**  
Make your home office work for you  
**PLUS** Anne Frank Day 2: her most intimate thoughts

**WEDNESDAY**

**STYLE**

What's in store this spring  
**PLUS** Nigella Lawson on women at work

**Labour would keep Woodhead**

**INSIDE**

## BRANSON'S LOGBOOK

'At this rate we will hit the ground in minutes...' Page 5

**NEW YEAR, NEW JOB**  
Career challenges daily this week  
Pages 12, 13

**PLUS**  
Your free personal profile worth £35  
**TOKEN 1 PAGE 37**

**STARTING TODAY**

## ANNE FRANK UNCENSORED

First stirrings of love revealed in the suppressed parts of the diary  
Pages 14, 15

**14 PAGES OF SPORT**

## MANCHESTER UTD STUN SPURS PAGE 23

**PLUS**  
Annual schools cross-country race  
**PAGE 33**

**TODAY**

**10P**

AUSTIN HARGRAVE

# Blair sets sights on new deal for schools

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

TONY BLAIR launched a personal crusade to transform school standards yesterday when he announced that a far-reaching Education Bill would be Labour's top priority.

It would include measures to reduce class sizes, improve literacy standards and set homework targets. He also promised to replace poor headteachers and to take over bad schools.

"If we want to get this right, it has to be driven through from the top, no holds barred," Mr Blair said. "This is my passion." Education would dominate his agenda for the next decade and he intended to approach it with the same zeal that Margaret Thatcher had applied to the trade unions.

In the Eighties, whether you like it or not, the Conservatives drove through a programme of trade union reform," Mr Blair said in an interview with David Frost on BBC1. "In the late 1990s, and

which will require primary legislation, include:

- National minimum homework requirements — from 30 minutes a night for seven-year-olds to 90 minutes for secondary pupils;
- Home-school contracts signed by teachers and parents specifying the work required;
- National literacy targets, now being developed by a task force chaired by the educationist Michael Barber;
- Assessment of children's reading ability on entry to primary schools, and three-week "literacy summer schools" before secondary school;
- Cutting primary school class sizes to 30, using funds from abolishing the assisted places scheme for private schools;
- Providing nursery education for all four-year-olds, and scrapping the Tories' voucher scheme;
- Enabling head teachers of successful schools temporarily to take over the running of neighbouring failing schools;
- Requiring every head teacher to be properly qualified for the job before getting it.

Labour also aims to ensure that in ten years' time no child should enter secondary school with below-standard English skills — at the moment 40 per cent of children fail to reach the required level.

Teaching organisations gave Mr Blair's proposals a mixed reception.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "Some ideas we would welcome, like class sizes and head teachers' qualifications. But Mr Blair fails to realise just how reform-weary teachers are. Without additional resources a lot of the reforms he proposes are just pie in the sky."

David Hart of the National Association of Head Teachers was delighted that Mr Blair had recognised the importance of education, but added: "Tony Blair has to recognise that an incoming Labour government must address the current crisis affecting teacher recruitment, retention and motivation, otherwise its education policies will come to nothing."

Mr Blair also used his interview to reiterate his determination to frustrate government business in the parliamentary session starting today. He aims to do all he can to force a confidence vote if he thinks the opposition parties will unite to defeat the Government, but Labour sources said last night that he did not expect to be able to do that in the near future. MPs would therefore concentrate on trying to inflict minor defeats.

The endorsement was welcomed by Mr Woodhead, who said: "I have always argued that the accusation that Ofsted and myself are Tory poodles is complete nonsense. We have sought to contribute to this Government's attempts to raise standards. We would do exactly the same if there were to be a Labour government."

early part of the next millennium, I want the next Labour government to be every bit as committed and determined and passionate about driving through education reform in this country. If at the end of five years we have made an definable difference to the way our children are educated in this country, we will have done something of which we can be proud."

But Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary dismissed Mr Blair's remarks as hot air. Labour had consistently opposed Tory measures to raise standards but had now identified areas where the Government was already taking action, she said.

Labour's proposals, some of

which will require primary legislation, include:

- National minimum homework requirements — from 30 minutes a night for seven-year-olds to 90 minutes for secondary pupils;
- Home-school contracts signed by teachers and parents specifying the work required;
- National literacy targets, now being developed by a task force chaired by the educationist Michael Barber;
- Assessment of children's reading ability on entry to primary schools, and three-week "literacy summer schools" before secondary school;
- Cutting primary school class sizes to 30, using funds from abolishing the assisted places scheme for private schools;
- Providing nursery education for all four-year-olds, and scrapping the Tories' voucher scheme;
- Enabling head teachers of successful schools temporarily to take over the running of neighbouring failing schools;
- Requiring every head teacher to be properly qualified for the job before getting it.

Labour also aims to ensure that in ten years' time no child should enter secondary school with below-standard English skills — at the moment 40 per cent of children fail to reach the required level.

Teaching organisations gave Mr Blair's proposals a mixed reception.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "Some ideas we would welcome, like class sizes and head teachers' qualifications. But Mr Blair fails to realise just how reform-weary teachers are. Without additional resources a lot of the reforms he proposes are just pie in the sky."

David Hart of the National Association of Head Teachers was delighted that Mr Blair had recognised the importance of education, but added: "Tony Blair has to recognise that an incoming Labour government must address the current crisis affecting teacher recruitment, retention and motivation, otherwise its education policies will come to nothing."

The endorsement was welcomed by Mr Woodhead, who said: "I have always argued that the accusation that Ofsted and myself are Tory poodles is complete nonsense. We have sought to contribute to this Government's attempts to raise standards. We would do exactly the same if there were to be a Labour government."

early part of the next millennium, I want the next Labour government to be every bit as committed and determined and passionate about driving through education reform in this country. If at the end of five years we have made an definable difference to the way our children are educated in this country, we will have done something of which we can be proud."

But Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary dismissed Mr Blair's remarks as hot air. Labour had consistently opposed Tory measures to raise standards but had now identified areas where the Government was already taking action, she said.

Labour's proposals, some of

which will require primary legislation, include:

- National minimum homework requirements — from 30 minutes a night for seven-year-olds to 90 minutes for secondary pupils;
- Home-school contracts signed by teachers and parents specifying the work required;
- National literacy targets, now being developed by a task force chaired by the educationist Michael Barber;
- Assessment of children's reading ability on entry to primary schools, and three-week "literacy summer schools" before secondary school;
- Cutting primary school class sizes to 30, using funds from abolishing the assisted places scheme for private schools;
- Providing nursery education for all four-year-olds, and scrapping the Tories' voucher scheme;
- Enabling head teachers of successful schools temporarily to take over the running of neighbouring failing schools;
- Requiring every head teacher to be properly qualified for the job before getting it.

Labour also aims to ensure that in ten years' time no child should enter secondary school with below-standard English skills — at the moment 40 per cent of children fail to reach the required level.

Teaching organisations gave Mr Blair's proposals a mixed reception.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "Some ideas we would welcome, like class sizes and head teachers' qualifications. But Mr Blair fails to realise just how reform-weary teachers are. Without additional resources a lot of the reforms he proposes are just pie in the sky."

David Hart of the National Association of Head Teachers was delighted that Mr Blair had recognised the importance of education, but added: "Tony Blair has to recognise that an incoming Labour government must address the current crisis affecting teacher recruitment, retention and motivation, otherwise its education policies will come to nothing."

early part of the next millennium, I want the next Labour government to be every bit as committed and determined and passionate about driving through education reform in this country. If at the end of five years we have made an definable difference to the way our children are educated in this country, we will have done something of which we can be proud."

But Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary dismissed Mr Blair's remarks as hot air. Labour had consistently opposed Tory measures to raise standards but had now identified areas where the Government was already taking action, she said.

Labour's proposals, some of

which will require primary legislation, include:

- National minimum homework requirements — from 30 minutes a night for seven-year-olds to 90 minutes for secondary pupils;
- Home-school contracts signed by teachers and parents specifying the work required;
- National literacy targets, now being developed by a task force chaired by the educationist Michael Barber;
- Assessment of children's reading ability on entry to primary schools, and three-week "literacy summer schools" before secondary school;
- Cutting primary school class sizes to 30, using funds from abolishing the assisted places scheme for private schools;
- Providing nursery education for all four-year-olds, and scrapping the Tories' voucher scheme;
- Enabling head teachers of successful schools temporarily to take over the running of neighbouring failing schools;
- Requiring every head teacher to be properly qualified for the job before getting it.

Labour also aims to ensure that in ten years' time no child should enter secondary school with below-standard English skills — at the moment 40 per cent of children fail to reach the required level.

Teaching organisations gave Mr Blair's proposals a mixed reception.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "Some ideas we would welcome, like class sizes and head teachers' qualifications. But Mr Blair fails to realise just how reform-weary teachers are. Without additional resources a lot of the reforms he proposes are just pie in the sky."

David Hart of the National Association of Head Teachers was delighted that Mr Blair had recognised the importance of education, but added: "Tony Blair has to recognise that an incoming Labour government must address the current crisis affecting teacher recruitment, retention and motivation, otherwise its education policies will come to nothing."

early part of the next millennium, I want the next Labour government to be every bit as committed and determined and passionate about driving through education reform in this country. If at the end of five years we have made an definable difference to the way our children are educated in this country, we will have done something of which we can be proud."

But Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary dismissed Mr Blair's remarks as hot air. Labour had consistently opposed Tory measures to raise standards but had now identified areas where the Government was already taking action, she said.

Labour's proposals, some of

which will require primary legislation, include:

- National minimum homework requirements — from 30 minutes a night for seven-year-olds to 90 minutes for secondary pupils;
- Home-school contracts signed by teachers and parents specifying the work required;
- National literacy targets, now being developed by a task force chaired by the educationist Michael Barber;
- Assessment of children's reading ability on entry to primary schools, and three-week "literacy summer schools" before secondary school;
- Cutting primary school class sizes to 30, using funds from abolishing the assisted places scheme for private schools;
- Providing nursery education for all four-year-olds, and scrapping the Tories' voucher scheme;
- Enabling head teachers of successful schools temporarily to take over the running of neighbouring failing schools;
- Requiring every head teacher to be properly qualified for the job before getting it.

Labour also aims to ensure that in ten years' time no child should enter secondary school with below-standard English skills — at the moment 40 per cent of children fail to reach the required level.

Teaching organisations gave Mr Blair's proposals a mixed reception.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "Some ideas we would welcome, like class sizes and head teachers' qualifications. But Mr Blair fails to realise just how reform-weary teachers are. Without additional resources a lot of the reforms he proposes are just pie in the sky."

David Hart of the National Association of Head Teachers was delighted that Mr Blair had recognised the importance of education, but added: "Tony Blair has to recognise that an incoming Labour government must address the current crisis affecting teacher recruitment, retention and motivation, otherwise its education policies will come to nothing."

early part of the next millennium, I want the next Labour government to be every bit as committed and determined and passionate about driving through education reform in this country. If at the end of five years we have made an definable difference to the way our children are educated in this country, we will have done something of which we can be proud."

But Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary dismissed Mr Blair's remarks as hot air. Labour had consistently opposed Tory measures to raise standards but had now identified areas where the Government was already taking action, she said.

Labour's proposals, some of

which will require primary legislation, include:

- National minimum homework requirements — from 30 minutes a night for seven-year-olds to 90 minutes for secondary pupils;
- Home-school contracts signed by teachers and parents specifying the work required;
- National literacy targets, now being developed by a task force chaired by the educationist Michael Barber;
- Assessment of children's reading ability on entry to primary schools, and three-week "literacy summer schools" before secondary school;
- Cutting primary school class sizes to 30, using funds from abolishing the assisted places scheme for private schools;
- Providing nursery education for all four-year-olds, and scrapping the Tories' voucher scheme;
- Enabling head teachers of successful schools temporarily to take over the running of neighbouring failing schools;
- Requiring every head teacher to be properly qualified for the job before getting it.

Labour also aims to ensure that in ten years' time no child should enter secondary school with below-standard English skills — at the moment 40 per cent of children fail to reach the required level.

Teaching organisations gave Mr Blair's proposals a mixed reception.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "Some ideas we would welcome, like class sizes and head teachers' qualifications. But Mr Blair fails to realise just how reform-weary teachers are. Without additional resources a lot of the reforms he proposes are just pie in the sky."

David Hart of the National Association of Head Teachers was delighted that Mr Blair had recognised the importance of education, but added: "Tony Blair has to recognise that an incoming Labour government must address the current crisis affecting teacher recruitment, retention and motivation, otherwise its education policies will come to nothing."

early part of the next millennium, I want the next Labour government to be every bit as committed and determined and passionate about driving through education reform in this country. If at the end of five years we have made an definable difference to the way our children are educated in this country, we will have done something of which we can be proud."

But Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary dismissed Mr Blair's remarks as hot air. Labour had consistently opposed Tory measures to raise standards but had now identified areas where the Government was already taking action, she said.

Labour's proposals, some of

which will require primary legislation, include:

- National minimum homework requirements — from 30 minutes a night for seven-year-olds to 90 minutes for secondary pupils;
- Home-school contracts signed by teachers and parents specifying the work required;
- National literacy targets, now being developed by a task force chaired by the educationist Michael Barber;
- Assessment of children's reading ability on entry to primary schools, and three-week "literacy summer schools" before secondary school;
- Cutting primary school class sizes to 30, using funds from abolishing the assisted places scheme for private schools;
- Providing nursery education for all four-year-olds, and scrapping the Tories' voucher scheme;
- Enabling head teachers of successful schools temporarily to take over the running of neighbouring failing schools;
- Requiring every head teacher to be properly qualified for the job before getting it.

Labour also aims to ensure that in ten years' time no child should enter secondary school with below-standard English skills — at the moment 40 per cent of children fail to reach the required level.

Teaching organisations gave Mr Blair's proposals a mixed reception.

Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "Some ideas we would welcome, like class sizes and head teachers' qualifications. But Mr Blair fails to realise just how reform-weary teachers are. Without additional resources a lot of the reforms he proposes are just pie in the sky."

David Hart of the National Association of Head Teachers was delighted that Mr Blair had recognised the importance of education, but added: "Tony Blair has to recognise that an incoming Labour government must address the current crisis affecting teacher recruitment, retention and motivation, otherwise its education policies will come to nothing."

early part of the next millennium, I want the next Labour government to be every bit as committed and determined and passionate about driving through education reform in this country. If at the end of five years we have made an definable difference to the way our children are educated in this country, we will have done something of which we can be proud."

But Gillian Shephard, the Education and Employment Secretary dismissed Mr Blair's remarks as hot air. Labour had consistently opposed Tory measures to raise standards but had now identified areas where the Government was already taking action, she said.

Labour's proposals, some of

which will require primary legislation, include:

- National minimum homework requirements — from 30 minutes a night for seven-year-olds to 90 minutes for secondary pupils;
- Home-school contracts signed by

Veto would be retained by each member state, but opt-outs made easier

## Major devises a compromise plan for EU flexibility

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR, IN ISLAMABAD

A COMPROMISE aimed at breaking the deadlock over Europe's direction and binding Tory party wounds is to be proposed by John Major to his European Union partners.

The Prime Minister is tailoring ideas for a multi-speed Europe that would allow Britain and other countries greater flexibility to opt out of European Union activities and policies that they were happy to see the rest pursuing.

All countries would retain the veto to stop small or elite groups pressing ahead with policies that they regarded as dangerous or unsuitable for the European Union.

The Prime Minister claimed yesterday to have found a way of resolving the serious dispute at the heart of the European Union over the speed at which it should develop and integrate. Although he declined to "show my negotiating hand" by giving full details, Mr Major clearly indicated that he believes there can be agreement over a formula by which countries can choose their own pace of development.

But it was also evident that he is standing firmly in the way of a Franco-German flexibility plan that would allow a hardcore of European nations to go ahead on their own in any areas they choose. That idea has emerged as a way of stopping Britain standing in the way of the more federalist ambitions of many of its EU partners. There had been fears that such a plan, when allied with the single currency, would effectively lead to the

creation of a powerful economic government within Europe.

In what he described as a new negotiation, rather than a re-negotiation, of membership terms, Mr Major said that the EU could not continue in its present form as its membership grew to 20 and then 25 members. It would have to be more flexible.

Mr Major, talking to reporters as he flew from Dhaka to Islamabad for the final stage of his tour of the subcontinent, appears to have broadened his proposal for a flexible EU, which was first floated in his Leiden lecture two years ago. He believes that countries that want to form an inner core on certain policy areas should only be allowed to do so if the rest agree. Britain and other countries would preserve a veto that would stop countries going it alone if it was felt that such a move was undesirable for the future of the EU.

He appears to have embraced a system of "multiple opt-outs" to cover areas where there is no objection to a group going ahead on their own. He is backing a big extension of the arrangement he won at Maastricht which allowed Britain an opt out on the social chapter and the single currency. If individual states did not want to take part, they would not have to.

Mr Major discussed proposals for a flexible Europe with Wim Kok, the Dutch Prime Minister, who holds the presidency of the EU for the next six months, before he left for India last week. They had agreed that his message would not be easy for some countries to swallow, clearly referring to France and Germany. But he added: "It is the only way the EU will be able to develop in the years ahead."



John Major with Malik Meraj Khalid, Pakistan's caretaker Prime Minister, in Islamabad yesterday

THE TIMES

READERSHIP of *The Times* set new records in 1996, confirming its position as the fastest growing quality newspaper in Britain.

During the period from June to November, its adult daily readership rose to 2,165,000 — an increase of 30 per cent year on year, according to latest national readership figures.

*The Times* also continues to attract new younger readers. Readership among the under-45s grew by 34.5 per cent to 1,150,000 and the number of ABC1 readers rose by 26.3 per cent.

Sales also set new records. The average circulation for the period July to December was 790,857 — 18.26 per cent up on the previous year.

In December, a month which is traditionally poor for newspaper sales, circulation increased by 14.78 per cent compared to December 1995.

Average sales last month were 740,709 — 95,406 more than the previous year.

In marked contrast, *The Daily Telegraph's* adult readership managed only a 0.5 per cent increase between June and November.

The number of under-45s reading *The Daily Telegraph* fell by 5.4 per cent to 938,000, while the number of ABC1 readers fell by 3.8 per cent.

## Labour pledge to ban foreign donations for political parties

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A LABOUR government would make it illegal for political parties to accept money from foreign donors, Tony Blair said yesterday amid Labour claims that much of the Tories' new advertising campaign was funded by overseas sources.

Mr Blair made clear that he would seek to ban such donations. "We believe there is a very strong case for making illegal the funding of political parties from abroad," he told BBC1's *Breakfast with Frost*.

The Labour Party already declines money from overseas

donors, and names all those who give donations more than £5,000. It has also called for the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life to investigate party funding.

Funding of political parties should be open, it should be transparent, and there should not be money taken in from abroad, because it's quite wrong," Mr Blair said. "This applies not just to the Tory party but to the Referendum Party: no one will buy or can buy the British electorate."

Funding for Mr Blair's private office will come under

scrutiny today by the parliamentary Standards and Privileges Committee. The committee will examine a report prepared by Sir Gordon Downey into research funds for frontbenchers, which includes a section on the fund thought to have raised £2 million towards the costs of running the Labour leader's office.

Mr Blair said reports that Labour's plan for a windfall tax was illegal, and could be blocked by European and British courts, were part of a campaign to discredit it by the utilities and the Tory party.

## Blair pushes ahead with NEC reform

By JILL SHERMAN

LABOUR is drawing up plans to reduce the power of the party's National Executive Committee and transform the annual conference.

Tom Sawyer, the party's general secretary, is studying proposals to avoid facing clashes with the party's ruling body, and to prevent conferences being dominated by perpetual infighting over the same issues.

An interim report will be put to the NEC this month, but some leftwingers have already given warning that they will

resist the changes. They argue that the reforms, to be finalised after the election, will lead to more centralisation, giving Tony Blair a much bigger powerbase.

But the Labour leader yesterday emphasised that the changes were being pushed through by the party rather than himself "to make sure that Labour government functions well." It was vital to ensure that "we have a structure that means all the way through, Labour is still representing the voice of the British people."

## Cherie Booth tells of shock at wife-battering

By IAN MURRAY

THE privatisation of London Underground could be included in the Conservative Party's election manifesto in an attempt to win votes from its 1.6 million users. "It might be a vote-winner in the context of getting much-needed investment without calling on the taxpayer, getting the money sooner and improving some aspects of management," John Bowis, the Transport Minister, said yesterday.

The idea has the strong backing of the Prime Minister, who told last year's party conference that he would like to see if the principle of rail privatisation could be applied to the Tube system.

Transport ministry officials have been ordered to investigate ways of finding private finance both to replace the £350 million annual government grant needed to keep the system operating at present levels and to raise the £1.25 billion required to meet the backlog of urgent repairs and maintenance work.

The sale could include 254 miles of track and tunnels, 271 stations and 460 trains. One unofficial estimate is that the sale could realise £13 billion.

Glenda Jackson, the Shadow Transport Minister, said: "The only way the kind of capital investment needed can be raised is through a joint public and private venture."

David Chidgey, Liberal Democrat transport spokesman, said: "The Tories are sacrificing the safety of millions to fund short-term tax bribes. Fragmentation of the system will do nothing to improve service."

Leading article, page 19

## Lawrence widow fights sleaze

Frances Lawrence, widow of the murdered headmaster Philip, is to support a new campaign, The People's Trust, to put morality at the heart of government policy-making. The organisation, also supported by Mohammed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods, will be formally launched in the next few weeks. It is calling for MPs to declare financial interests before the election, and wants constitutional reform, especially on the funding of political parties.

## Freighter runs down trawler

A search was launched last night for a freighter that failed to stop after running down a fishing boat. The 100ft trawler *Sparkling Star* was holed and masts and other communication equipment ripped off in a collision with a much larger vessel 30 miles southeast of Start Point in Devon. None of the seven Scottish crew was hurt. The Marine Safety Agency and marine accident investigation branch are trying to identify the freighter.

## Girls' A levels upgraded

Half of 42 students from King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls in Birmingham who sat A-level English last year have been awarded higher grades by the Associated Examining Board after a mistake in marking meant some missed their preferred places at university. The regrading came after a five-month fight by Joan Fisher, the headteacher, which she began after the school's results were worse than in previous years.

## Oxford place for girl, 12

A girl aged 12 has won a place at Oxford University to read mathematics. Suifah Yusof, from Northampton, will equal the record set by Ruth Lawrence 13 years ago when she takes her place at St Hilda's, the all-female college, in September. She requires another A level in maths, which she is expected to pass next month. The girl, also a talented tennis player, was tutored at home by her parents.

## Man is found dead in flat

A man has been found stabbed to death at his flat in Hastings, East Sussex. Police officers found the body of Alastair Rattray, 53, late on Friday night. A post-mortem examination disclosed that he had died from stab wounds to the neck. Sussex police said yesterday that a 23-year-old man who lives in Hastings had been arrested and was being interviewed.

## High-tech school dinners

Parents will be able to buy electronic "smart cards" for their children to pay for school dinners at the Garibaldi School in Forest Town, Nottinghamshire. The pupils will no longer be able to spend dinner money at the chip shop or sweet store, and parents will be able to programme the card so it will not buy certain foods. Parents will be sent prints showing what their children have eaten.

## Cathedral floor broken up

Work on tearing up and replacing the uneven sandstone flagstones of Chester Cathedral to install underfloor heating begins today. The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings led a campaign to save the 220-year-old floor, describing it as one of the building's most striking features. The architectural historian Gavin Stamp said the floor was "the English equivalent of that of St Mark's in Venice".

## Alert on sesame allergy

Up to 30,000 people in Britain suffer from a little-known allergy to sesame seeds yet the use of the seeds — for flavouring, decoration and in foreign cuisine — is increasing, studies have found. Sufferers are generally older than reported for peanut allergy cases and the allergy could begin at any time of life, rather than in childhood, as is usually the case with peanuts.

## Attack claim at Prince's hunt

Police are investigating claims by a hunt protester that she was attacked by a steward in front of the Prince of Wales. Kate Maynard, 28, said she was put in a headlock as Prince Charles rode towards her, wrestled to the ground and had snow pushed in her mouth to stop her shouting at the Middleton Hunt, which met on the Bury of Halifax's estate in Bugthorpe near York on Saturday.

School in parents over claims about

Retired RAF pilot goes Dutch

Fashion of the year

Exam failure se

# Get a life!

It's your life. So now that your office can be anywhere you choose to open your LifeBook, why not go out and get it back?

Call 0245 123 555 or visit [www.fujitsu-computers.com](http://www.fujitsu-computers.com)

The Fujitsu LifeBook™ 500 Series

Intel Pentium Processor  
120-150 MHz  
Up to 48 MB EDD RAM  
Hard drive up to 1.3 GB  
11.3-12.3-inch SVGA screen  
Soundblaster PRO  
Six-speed CD-ROM®  
Zoomed video / MPEG®

\* model specifications vary

LIFEBOOK

FUJITSU  
PCs • Notebooks • Servers

The Intel Inside and Pentium Processor Logos are trademarks of Intel Corporation.

مكتبة من الأصل

Dean attacks 'malevolent rumour' as police inquiry clears two teachers

# School may sue parents over sex claims about staff

BY DAVID CHATER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

ONE of Britain's oldest schools is considering suing two parents who made claims of sexual impropriety against senior teachers. Wells Cathedral School, founded in the 12th century, will consult lawyers today because it feels its reputation suffered "incalculable damage" from the allegations.

The two male teachers at the centre of the claims were cleared last week after a three-month police inquiry that became the talk of the historic Somerset city after widespread publicity.

The Very Rev Richard Lewis, the Dean of Wells, who is chairman of the school's governors, said it seemed that Britain was becoming a society "where you have to prove innocence rather than guilt". He stunned parishioners by denouncing the parents from the cathedral pulpit.

"What we are dealing with here are persons with fevered imaginations, malevolent spirit and malicious intent," he told the congregation. "This has been going on for a long time, and indeed one of these persons wrote to me and the headmaster, promising to cause mischief."

One of those present said: "The nave was full but you could have heard a pin drop when he finished."

The allegations cast a cloud over the 800-pupil school, where fees are nearly £10,000 a year. The claims were originally investigated by the school more than a year ago, when both teachers were exonerated. One was accused of encouraging girls to sit on his knee, and the other of touching female pupils and making lewd remarks.

In response to a letter from the dean last May, saying that the matter was closed after the school's investigation, one of the parents who made the claims wrote back saying: "Unfortunately, the matter is not closed. Au contraire, the matter is just beginning."

The dean refused to name the parents behind the allegations. He said: "The persons concerned have already taken their children away. One left in high dudgeon, and I am afraid to say there are still monies outstanding."

He put the complainants' attitude down to "deep sickness of the heart and disappointment that their young people had not reached the standard that perhaps the teacher had imagined, and the parent gets the blame".

He robustly defended the teachers involved, neither of whom was suspended during the police investigation. The first was a classroom teacher, he said.

He is the sort of person to withdraw from the school and gather

er round and it really was no more than that.

"I could take you to dozens and dozens of parents who have been absolutely appalled and unhappy that this person has been treated in this way because he is held in such high esteem".

The second was said to have made a remark "in the cut and thrust" of a lesson. "It was a throwaway line which two years later comes back as harassment. The integrity of these teachers is quite beyond reproach."

The dean added: "We do feel very angry indeed at having to mount such a strong defence and we feel a great sense of injustice because we have discovered how powerless we are to defend ourselves when these sorts of accusations are made."

"We are considering action and will be asking our advisers what is appropriate to redress the great harm that has been done to us. Suing them must be among the options that we consider".

The Independent Schools Information Service said it believed this was the first case of its kind.

Dick Davison, the association's deputy director, said: "Schools have occasionally taken legal action against parents over unpaid fees, but I cannot think of anything quite like this".

The school fears that potential parents may have been put off by the publicity and innuendo surrounding the case. Both the parents who made the accusations withdrew their children from the school last year.

Don Salisbury, head of Avon and Somerset Police family and child protection unit, said: "There were one or two main allegations, and a number of more minor issues. We investigated them very thoroughly and decided that there will be no further action. Apart from that, I don't wish to say any more."

Cathedral: "you could have heard a pin drop"

It is believed one of the parents sent a four-page report to social services at Somerset County Council, and followed it up with complaints to the police, who decided to investigate in September.

The dean's pulpit outburst followed the disclosure of the allegations in the national media in November. Yesterday he said: "Since November, we have had individuals and families who have been deeply distressed by this malevolent rumour. It seems we are becoming a society where you have to prove innocence rather than guilt. The damage this has caused to Wells Cathedral School is incalculable".

The dean refused to name the parents behind the allegations. He said: "The persons concerned have already taken their children away. One left in high dudgeon, and I am afraid to say there are still monies outstanding."

He put the complainants' attitude down to "deep sickness of the heart and disappointment that their young people had not reached the standard that perhaps the teacher had imagined, and the parent gets the blame".

He robustly defended the teachers involved, neither of whom was suspended during the police investigation. The first was a classroom teacher, he said.

He is the sort of person to withdraw from the school and gather

er round and it really was no more than that.

"I could take you to dozens and dozens of parents who have been absolutely appalled and unhappy that this person has been treated in this way because he is held in such high esteem".

The second was said to have made a remark "in the cut and thrust" of a lesson. "It was a throwaway line which two years later comes back as harassment. The integrity of these teachers is quite beyond reproach."

The dean added: "We do feel very angry indeed at having to mount such a strong defence and we feel a great sense of injustice because we have discovered how powerless we are to defend ourselves when these sorts of accusations are made."

"We are considering action and will be asking our advisers what is appropriate to redress the great harm that has been done to us. Suing them must be among the options that we consider".

The Independent Schools Information Service said it believed this was the first case of its kind.

Dick Davison, the association's deputy director, said: "Schools have occasionally taken legal action against parents over unpaid fees, but I cannot think of anything quite like this".

The school fears that potential parents may have been put off by the publicity and innuendo surrounding the case. Both the parents who made the accusations withdrew their children from the school last year.

Don Salisbury, head of Avon and Somerset Police family and child protection unit, said: "There were one or two main allegations, and a number of more minor issues. We investigated them very thoroughly and decided that there will be no further action. Apart from that, I don't wish to say any more."

Cathedral: "you could have heard a pin drop"

The Very Rev Richard Lewis yesterday. He said: "The teachers are beyond reproach"



## Retired RAF pilot goes Dutch

A PILOT who had no job to go to when he retired from the RAF aged 38 has become the first foreigner to be appointed commanding officer of a top fighter squadron in the Royal Netherlands Air Force.

Chris Lorraine, who had become a Jaguar pilot and had 16 years' exemplary service, was prepared to look for an airline pilot's job, or failing that, something in the City.

While with the RAF, he had worked as an exchange pilot with the Dutch air force. When he said he was returning to Civvy Street, they asked: "Why not stay on with us?" At first, he thought they were joking. They were not; they had been highly impressed with his flying.

Mr Lorraine, who had been second-in-command and had flown on operations over Bosnia, was summoned to see the Dutch air force chief.

Major Chris Lorraine, of the Royal Netherlands Air Force now commands 315 Squadron, equipped with American F16 fighters, at a base near Antwerp. His wife Carol, a former WRAF officer, and children are in Holland too. The family live away from base as is the practice there.

The Ministry of Defence said it was unusual but not unknown for pilots reaching retirement age to transfer to air forces abroad. However, the positions offered were, like those offered by RAF to their own retiring pilots, mainly desk-bound jobs such as press relations.

## Fashion victims fall foul of England's new strip

BY BILL FROST

A RUSTYLED England soccer shirt aimed at tens of thousands of young enthusiasts was launched yesterday to cries of foul from short-changed parents.

Replicas of the previous strip sold rapidly over Christmas at up to £70 a time. Now the presents are passed victims of fast-changing fashion in a market worth an estimated £3 billion a year.

Sadly, uncomforably along pavement catwalk in Soho, Alan Shearer, the England captain, was wolf-whistled by photographers as he executed a clumsy pirouette in the new home strip. Sheepish in red, white and blue, he described the new "anti-

sweat" shirt and shorts as "very smart — a strip I look forward to wearing... if I am chosen for the squad to meet Italy at Wembley in the World Cup qualifying match in February".

Obviously for parents a pair of aspiring young England stars gave the new strip their unqualified approval. Jack Phillips, 9, and Gino Vassallo, 8 — in Soho for the launch and photocall — put in immediate orders.

"It is great and dad is buying me one, at least he had better," Jack said. Gino, obviously an Italy supporter, was equally enthusiastic. "I like the new strip almost as much as Italy's. The shorts are a bit

long though, if you get hot." David Mellor, the former Tory minister and host of Radio 5 Live's football talk show, called it a "cynical rip-off" by the manufacturers, Umbro, and the Football Association.

Shearer shrugged off the criticism, saying: "The fashion in football kit moves on and there is nothing I can do about that." The Newcastle footballer was particularly happy with a number of measures to improve comfort and durability. The shirt has been given a new coating to draw sweat away from the skin and keep the wearer dry in high humidity or temperature.

Simon Marsh, Umbro marketing manager, said: "We kept the two-year life cycle of the kit and there was very little of the old kit left on the market. We are in an industry that is involved in fashion and fashion changes."

Philip Carling, commercial director of the FA, said it was very pleased with the new kit and would support the kit on future plans. "We are confident the fans will like it."

The new strip, which goes on sale tomorrow, has been only slightly modified, with minor changes to the sleeves and collar and longer shorts. It costs £39.99 for an adult shirt and £29.99 for a junior shirt; shorts £21.99 for adults and £15.99 for children; socks £6.99 for adults and £5.99 for children. The prices are unchanged from the former kit.



Alan Shearer in the new England kit, released weeks after fans bought the former strip for Christmas

## Exam failure sells his firm for £7m

A BUSINESSMAN who left school without any O-levels has become a millionaire at the age of 33 after selling his computer company.

Tim Roots, who claims he is computer illiterate, made £6 million out of the £7 million sale of his firm, Portable Computers, to the US firm Eclips. Mr Roots, who lives near Stratford-upon-Avon, left school at 16 and admits his reports from Adams Grammar in Wem, Shropshire, and then Steyning Grammar in West Sussex, said he lacked concentration.

"All my school reports said I did not work hard enough unless I was interested

in something. I suppose I find business interesting because it is always changing so I do not get bored."

I sat eight O-levels but I failed them all. I went to two very good grammar schools but I was more interested in smoking behind the bike sheds at the time."

After success as a salesman and a company manager he set up his computer firm, working with his motios "start small" and "don't borrow". He said:

"When I started out I didn't have any money at all. I was married and my wife was pregnant at the time."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother just laughed and said: 'I don't think he will have a problem'."

He believes his lack of formal qualifications spurred him on but he nevertheless hopes his children will get better exam results. "I did have something to prove, but it is not something that I would recommend."

He plans to take three months off to live out his teenage dream of touring Europe on a motorcycle.

Now separated from his wife, but with two children, Mr Roots said his father still

grumbled about his lack of qualifications. "When my dad heard that I was selling the company he said to my brother 'I don't know what he is going to do now, he hasn't any qualifications'. My brother

## IRA accused of callous disregard for villagers

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

THE IRA was accused yesterday of endangering the lives of an entire community after mortar bombs were fired at a police station.

Terrorists used two mark 15 mortars, described as difficult to aim, for the attack on Saturday evening in the village of Tempo, Co Fermanagh. One of the bombs smashed into the roof of the unoccupied police station and the second overshot the building.

Parents were waiting yards away to collect children from a dance class. Neither of the devices exploded and nobody was injured.

Superintendent James Baxter said that the terrorists had put everyone in the village at risk: "Mark 15 mortars are notoriously inaccurate. The terrorists were only interested in bringing death and destruction to a quiet rural village where there are good community relations."

The IRA gave warning yesterday that it would kill anyone who thwarted their attacks during the holiday.

to the RUC. It is understood that a series of attacks in Belfast was abandoned recently because Catholics had reported suspicious activity to the police.

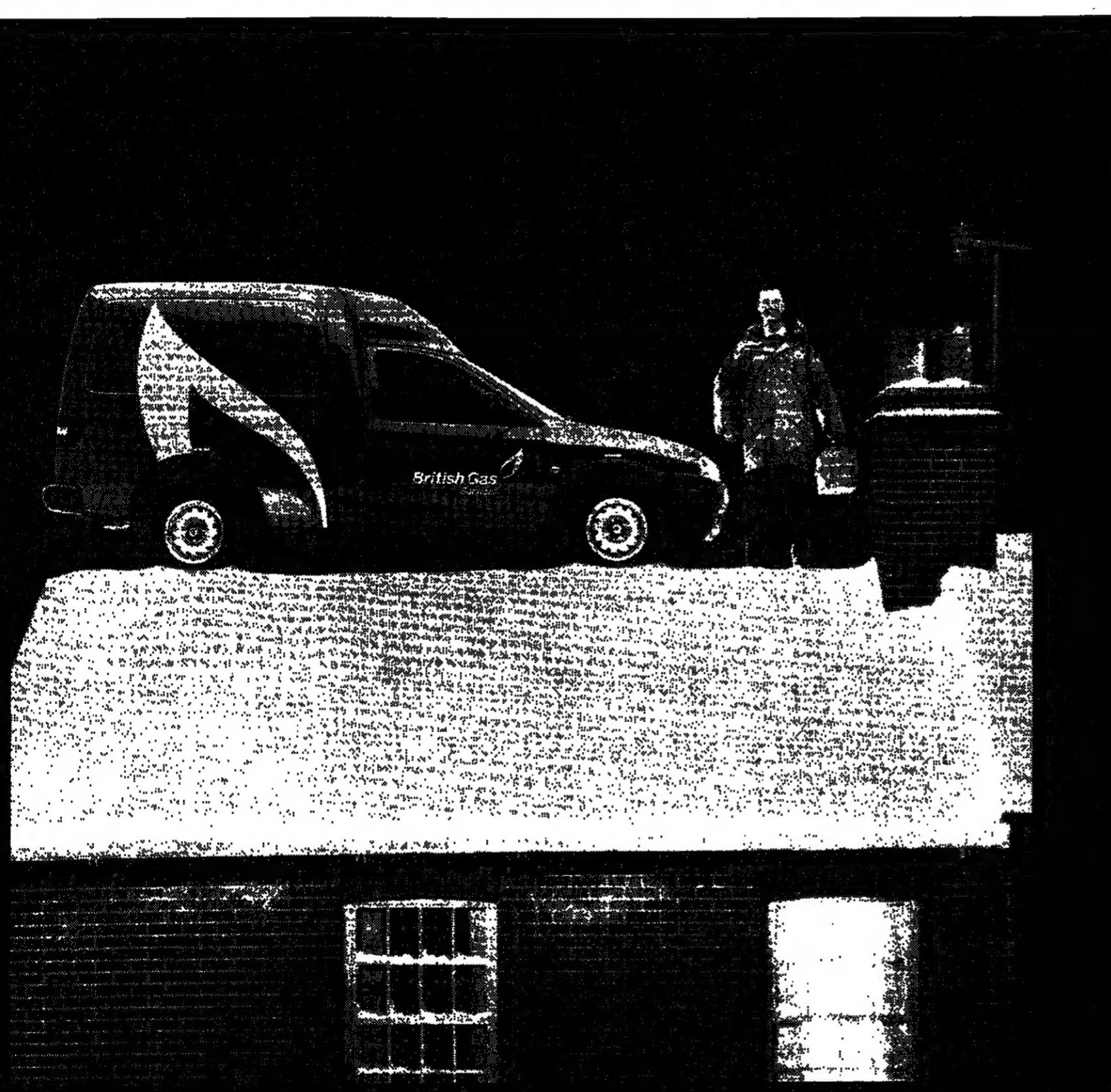
A statement to the *Andersonstown News* in West Belfast read: "The Belfast Brigade of the IRA has become aware that a number of people in the Belfast area have compromised operations and placed the lives of volunteers in danger. These individuals have informed the RUC of the presence of volunteers in our area ... The IRA will take action against anyone placing the lives of our volunteers in danger in this way."

It is understood that terrorists abandoned a 1,000lb bomb near Belfast Castle after the police were tipped off by a man attending a function at the castle.

Multiparty talks at Stormont resume today after the Christmas recess. The Democratic Unionists are likely to call for fringe loyalist parties to be expelled after two loyalist attacks during the holiday.



The burnt-out remains of the van used for the mortar attack on Tempo police station



## Santa wasn't the only one who visited over 5,000 homes this Christmas.

When your central heating breaks down at Christmas, there's nothing more welcoming than the sight of a British Gas Service Engineer. On Christmas Day, we made 2,139 emergency calls (and another 3,463 on Boxing Day), which is all part of our 365 day, round-the-clock, Celsius Three Star Service. Granted, our bags were full of tools rather than presents,

but we like to think that these special visits brought some of our customers a little extra Christmas cheer. If you'd like all-year peace of mind for your central heating, please call 0345 754 754. (Please quote ref WSPR.)

**British Gas**  
Services

\*Subject to terms and conditions - available on request.

## Union tells teachers to inform on parents using vouchers

By JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

BRITAIN'S biggest teaching union is urging its members to inform on parents who intend to use nursery vouchers to transfer their children from state nursery schools.

The National Union of Teachers is distributing a leaflet to local authority nursery and primary schools which could arouse fears among parents that their children might be penalised for attending private nurseries if they apply subsequently for a state school place. It says: "Where teachers become aware that the voucher scheme is likely to encourage the transfer of any of their schools' four-year-old pupils by parents to other forms of provision, they should immediately inform their headteachers."

Nursery vouchers worth £1,100 are being posted to parents of four-year-olds this week. About 30,000 state and private providers have applied to join the system. The NUT pamphlet says that standards

it offers to private providers to undermine provision in maintained schools."

The NUT has threatened industrial action if jobs or working conditions are jeopardised when the scheme comes into operation in April. Members have been advised to contact regional officials if they believe that excessive administrative workload is caused. Doug McAvoy, the NUT general secretary, said: "Teachers are in nursery schools to teach, not to cope with the excessive paperwork coming from a politically motivated change which brings no educational benefit."

The Education and Employment Department said state and private providers would be subject to the same quality checks. "The aim is to give parents choice. Parents, not administrators, are best placed to decide what sort of nursery education, whether school, nursery or playgroup, is most suitable."



### 'Cheaper tourists clogging streets'

By RICHARD FORD  
HOME CORRESPONDENT

TourISTS arriving on ferries and Eurostar who spend little, enjoy free attractions, and clog up the streets of historic cities should be taxed on entering the country, according to the foreword of the official handbook of Britain, published today.

High-spending tourists, on the other hand, should be encouraged for the positive economic benefits they bring.

The Earl of Bradford, author of the foreword, writes of the danger of the uncontrolled invasion of tourists in places such as Canterbury, Oxford and York and of the traffic nightmare in London during busy times. A major problem facing the capital was trying to differentiate between those tourists bringing positive economic benefits and those that "merely clog up the streets".

"Couches full of day-trippers from across the Channel, arriving with their packed lunches and itineraries of free attractions, could actually end up costing the country more than they bring in."

Lord Bradford, writing in a personal capacity, adds: "Perhaps those arriving via ferry terminals and Eurotunnel should, like airline passengers, be obliged to pay some sort of tax, so that the country would at least be assured of a contribution towards the infrastructure costs generated by the cheaper traveller."

Lord Bradford, who manages his family estate in Shropshire and owns a restaurant in Covent Garden, told *The Times* that it was very noticeable that many people were coming by coach for a day trip. "They have very often got their own packed lunch. They bring very little economic benefit. But one high-spending US tourist could be worth ten times in economic value of the coachload coming just for the free attractions."

The handbook is widely used as a reference work abroad and the Central Office of Information emphasised that Lord Bradford's foreword was his own viewpoint.

### New clue to extent of man's vanity

By A STAFF REPORTER

A BRACELET made 4,000 years ago which was discovered on a remote Scottish island is believed to have travelled 750 miles from the South of England, casting new light on the vanity of prehistoric man.

The bracelet is one of only a few in Scotland to be discovered intact from the period 2,000 years before the birth of Christ. It was found by archaeology students from Edinburgh University excavating a Bronze Age home on Uig on the west side of the Isle of Lewis. The only route to the island was a causeway that gave it protection from enemies and wild animals such as wolves.

Made from shale, the bracelet was found a few inches beneath the surface close to a wall near the entrance to the

small oval home. The dwelling has also revealed pottery, hammer stones and some metal work.

The nearest place for shale is several hundred miles away across the sea at Gaspé on Scotland's east coast. But tests have now revealed that the shale in the bracelet is not from that site, but from a type found in the South of England. The bracelet is evidence that a trade in exotic goods existed 4,000 years ago and was made possible by perilous journeys across the Minch.

Chris Burgess, one of the archaeologists, said that the bracelet could have been worn by a woman or a man, but was clearly a status symbol. "To have travelled so far it was clearly an important gift and a quite remarkable journey," he said.

Always

كذا من الأصل

each  
parent  
chers

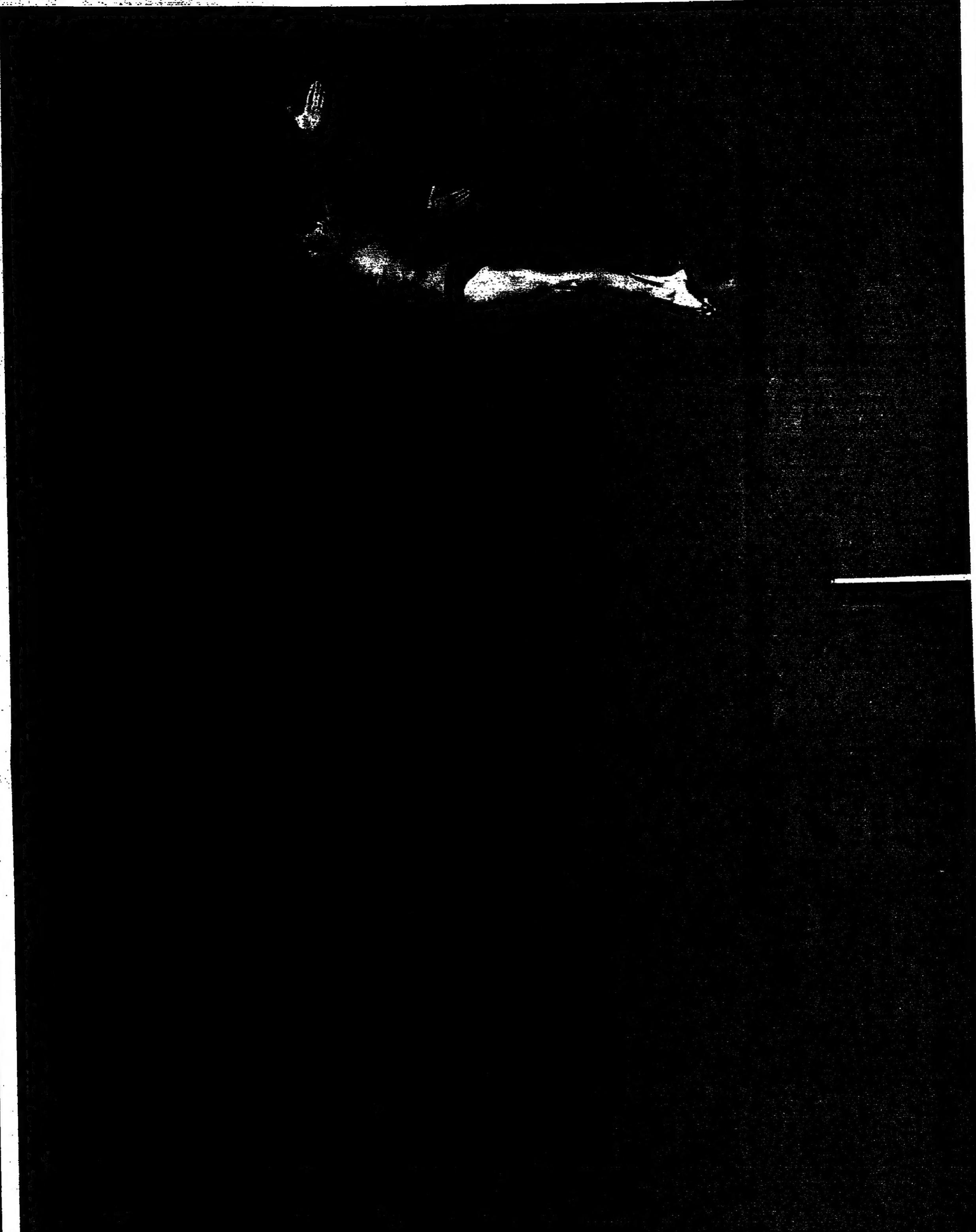
Che  
tours  
close  
stre

le to ev  
r's valua

THE TIMES MONDAY JANUARY 13 1997

7

THE PRINCIPLES OF INFORMATION:



Always launch into the known.

Innovation needn't be risky if it's backed by sound information. It takes flair, imagination and courage to drive your company forward. But when you base your business decisions on the best possible intelligence, you can execute them with style and assurance. That's why winning businesses the world over rely on Informix. It pays to know what lies ahead before you take the plunge.

 INFORMIX®

Unleashing business innovation.

FOR THE BEST INFORMATION, RING (0181) 818 1081. INFORMIX SOFTWARE LIMITED, 6 NEW SQUARE, BEDFORD LAKES, FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX TW14 8HA.



US mediator delays return to Washington after Jordan convenes hasty summit with Israeli leader

## King Husain steps in to save talks over Hebron

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

**LAST-DITCH** efforts to save the Middle East peace accord between Israel and the Palestinians were being made last night at a summit between King Husain of Jordan and Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister.

News of the hastily convened meeting was disclosed by Jordan hours after an announcement that Dennis Ross, the United States peace envoy, was due to return to Washington. Last night, however, Mr Ross was said to have cancelled those plans. His decision could have resulted from King Husain's summit effort. A US official said there could be "a meeting between Mr Netanyahu and Mr Arafat" today.

The emergency summit came after King Husain's first official visit to the Gaza Strip yesterday for talks with Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Authority President. Mr Arafat's top aides have issued a warning of potential "explosions" if rapid action is not taken to save the peace process.

King Husain stepped in and

was trying to exert his influence after Mr Ross' failure to bridge the wide differences between Israel and the Palestinians.

The American failure to effect a Hebron withdrawal and shore-up the wider Middle East peace process led Egypt to warn Israel that their 1979 peace treaty would end if there was no deal with Syria.

Shortly before the Husain-Netanyahu summit was announced, Nahib Shaath, a leading Palestinian minister, appealed to President Clinton to intervene to save the peace accord, originally signed on the White House lawn in 1993.

The Palestinians have accused Mr Netanyahu of renegotiating on clauses in the accord that they claimed required Israeli troops to evacuate from 80 per cent of the West Bank by last September. Israel insists on delaying the move by two years to May 1999.

The Palestinian Authority appealed yesterday for European help to save the peace process before frustration among its people led to re-



Yasser Arafat and King Husain in the Gaza Strip meet Rabbi Moshe Hirsch of Neturah Karta, an anti-Zionist group

newed violence. There is a crisis in the Israeli-Palestinian talks," it said. "If the international community does not move immediately to save the peace process ... then the whole region will witness explosions."

Palestinian officials had accused Mr Ross of a pro-Israel bias for his proposal of a compromise date of 1998 for the three further Israeli withdrawals that should follow the exit from Hebron.

Hasan Asfour, a member of the Palestinian Legislative Council, told Voice of Palestine radio that American mediation had been forced on the Palestinians. He said that under the new state of crisis "all options are open, and it is difficult to determine one future path for certain. We are at a very dangerous situation, and a grave one politically."

Egypt's warning about the possible collapse of the 1979 Camp David peace treaty, the

first between Israel and an Arab state, was delivered by Muhammad Bassoumi, the Egyptian Ambassador in Tel Aviv. It came after Israeli military concern about large-scale Egyptian military exercises and a series of anti-Semitic attacks on Mr Netanyahu in the Egyptian media.

In an interview with *HaShava*, a right-wing Israeli paper, the envoy said: "The agreement between Egypt and Israel will collapse should Israel not sign an agreement with Syria."

The warning came after sabre-rattling between Jerusalem and Damascus, which accused Israel of being behind a bus bomb in the Syrian capital on New Year's Eve which killed 13 people and wounded 40. Mr Netanyahu has repeatedly rejected the Syrian condition for renewed peace talks — a pledge to hand back the strategic Golani Heights, captured in 1967.

in the quest for peace, even when Israelis complain it is a cold peace," he said. "We agreed to normal relations ... until this new Israeli Government, there was steady movement towards trust and understanding."

During the past years of the Clinton Administration, the region's diplomats have been careful not to enter the fray.

But the distrust between all sides is clear in their latest attempts to influence the thinking of the President.

Concerned by the meeting that Mr Clinton granted Hassan Ashrawi, the Palestinian Authority's Education Minister, last week, Eliehu Ben-Eliyahu, the Israeli Ambassador to America, made a highly provocative attack against Egypt, accusing Cairo of encouraging Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian Authority President, of stalling on a Hebron deal and of urging other Arab countries not to normalise relations with Jerusalem.

"Unfortunately, the Egyptians have not been enthusiastic during this process for their own reasons," he said. "Israel's road to normal relations [with Oman and Qatar] has stalled ... we have found some Egyptian fingerprints along the way."

Yesterday, Ahmed Maher el-Sayed, the Egyptian Ambassador to America, described the allegations against his country as entirely baseless. "Egypt is steadfast



Ashrawi was granted a meeting with Clinton

## Tide turns against Clinton over sex harassment suit

By TOM RHODES

AMERICAN opinion is turning against President Clinton over the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit that is to be considered by the Supreme Court today.

Two separate polls to be published this morning show that a majority of Americans would not delay the case brought by Mrs Jones, 51, a former Arkansas state government employee, and that more than a third of the public now believe Mr Clinton did sexually harass her.

Two years ago less than a third of the population believed the claim by Mrs Jones that in 1991 she was led by an Arkansas state trooper to meet Mr Clinton, then Governor, in his room at the Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock.

Once alone in his suite, she alleges, the Governor started kissing her neck before he dropped his trousers and un-

buttoned and asked her to perform oral sex. Mr Clinton has said he does not remember the incident.

The Supreme Court will today consider whether to allow the case to proceed while Mr Clinton is still in office. Mrs Jones is seeking \$700,000 (£420,000) damages for defamation and violation of her civil rights.

A Time/CNN survey found that 56 per cent of Americans felt Mrs Jones should be allowed to continue with her suit. A separate poll conducted by Newsweek showed that 37 per cent of the population believe Mrs Jones compared with 23 per cent two years ago.

"Mrs Jones has ordered her lawyers to 'get me my day in court,'" while Mr Clinton is "using a legal team whose costs so far have risen to at least \$1.5 million. Costs are being met by two insurance

companies and a multi-million-dollar fund.

Until very recently Mrs Jones had failed to influence public opinion although at least two of her close friends and two relatives have said she described the encounter with Mr Clinton to them on the day it allegedly happened.

A former boyfriend had sold partially nude photographs of her to *Penthouse* magazine and her older sister and brother-in-law expressed scepticism about her story. But articles in *Newsweek* and the *American Lawyer* have given greater credence to her claims, sparking a bitter response from Clinton supporters.

"The amount of revisionist history going on in this case is astounding," said George Stephanopoulos, the adviser who recently left the White House but will be at the Supreme Court today.

## Black war veteran to receive top medal

By TOM RHODES

MORE than half a century after the event, a former US Army lieutenant today becomes the only living black soldier who served in the Second World War to receive the country's most prestigious battlefield medal.

Vernon Baker, 77, will be awarded the Medal of Honour at a White House ceremony. Six of his black compatriots are to receive the decoration posthumously.

The awards are being made after a special team of military historians in the United States concluded that segregation and the prevailing attitude at the time had resulted in none of the 1.7 million serving blacks receiving any of the 432 medals awarded during the war.

Mr Baker was a lieutenant in the all-black 92nd Infantry called the Buffalo Division when on April 5, 1945, his platoon of 25 men was ordered to lead the fight for Castel Aghinolfi, a German stronghold in Italy. Lieutenant Baker and his men destroyed five German machinegun nests and an artillery observation bun-



Baker: "I did my job and was rewarded"

ker during a skirmish which his white company commander, Captain John Runyon, went off to find reinforcements, leaving Lieutenant Baker and the rest of the soldiers to face three enemy attacks.

Captain Runyon was later nominated for the Medal of Honour while his deputy, Lieutenant Baker, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. The former soldier, who now lives in Idaho, said yesterday that before he was notified about the ceremony, he had been unaware that his name had been singled out by the panel.

"I did my job and was rewarded. As far as I was concerned that was it," he said. "The action happened in 1945 ... in the interim, there have been a lot of memories and things I have suppressed. I tried to put the war behind me years ago and now that it's been dug up I can put it behind me forever."

## Deal puts Disney boss in fairytale pay league

From GILES WHITTELL  
IN LOS ANGELES

THE Walt Disney Company has shown that nothing pays like wholesome family entertainment, renewing its chairman's contract for ten years on terms that could push his total earnings close to a billion dollars.

Michael Eisner has turned Disney into the world's most profitable entertainment empire since taking on the ailing concern in 1984. In return for agreeing to stay until 2006 he has been promised shares and cash worth more than \$200 million (£118 million), excluding bonuses that last year alone amounted to a further \$7.9 million.

Announcing Mr Eisner's deal, the company gave his new batch of eight million Disney share options a hypothetical value of \$195 million, though if he sustains recent growth rates they could be worth far more by the time he is free to cash them in.

Mr Eisner, who two years ago underwent multiple heart-bypass surgery, is estimated to have reaped \$600 million so far, including \$303 million in stock options that matured in September. He is among America's most scrutinised and envied executives.

He has brought vast profits through the relentless global promotion of Disney icons from Mickey Mouse to *Toy Story's* Buzz Lightyear from celluloid to cuddly toys.

His Achilles' heel, analysts say, is the lack of an heir — a problem that worsened last month when Michael Ovitz, his friend and second-in-command, left after 14 months.

ONLY DAEWOO  
GIVES YOU  
3 YEARS HEADACHE  
FREE MOTORING.



### DAEWOO MANIFESTO

#### 1. We deal direct

More for your money as standard on every Daewoo model.

Side impact protection

Headlight wash

Mobile phone

#### 2. Hassle free buying

No telegram or commission. Fixed pricing. No hidden charges. Delivery included.

Number plates included.

Fuel tank of fuel.

12 months road tax included.

#### 3. Complete peace of mind

3 years £9,000 fixed comprehensive warranty.

3 years £2,000 fixed servicing including parts and labour.

3 years free comprehensive insurance. Subject to status.

3 year Daewoo Total AA Cover.

3 year anti-corrosion warranty.

30 day 1,000 mile money back exchange guarantee.

#### 4. Courtesy servicing

Free courtesy car offered.

Pick up and return of your car (Mainland UK only).

No headaches for 3 years?

That'll be the

Daewoo

driver.

Paying over £250 for

Car insurance?

Call 0800 66 41 21

service line



Students with opposition banners march through Sofia yesterday in new demonstrations in favour of early elections after Friday's clashes between police and protesters

## 100,000 Sofia marchers demand poll

FROM RICHARD OWEN  
IN SOFIA

BULGARIA'S ruling Socialists, under pressure from hundreds of thousands of demonstrators, last night agreed to talks with the opposition on its demands for early elections. But Georgi Parvanov, the Socialist leader, made it clear that he expected his party to stay in power for at least a year to "stabilise" Bulgaria, which is undergoing its worst economic crisis since 1989.

That is unlikely to satisfy the opposition, which rallied 100,000 people in Sofia and tens of thousands more in cities nationwide to back its demand for early elections.

The Speaker, Blagovest Sendov —

who supports the Socialists in parliament — backed opposition demands for a general election, urging the Socialists to show "care for Bulgaria" by "holding negotiations with the opposition under the condition of early parliamentary elections".

Hundreds of cars flying blue opposition flags headed into Sofia from provincial towns for a rally yesterday on the seventh consecutive day of protests. "We are preparing for a nationwide strike," he said. He was backed by trade union leaders and students from Sofia University.

As the students marched through the capital and protesters massed outside the cathedral, Mr Zhelev gave a warning that the situation was "explosive", with the brutal police crackdown on Friday's protests providing a "detonator". Russia — traditionally Bulgaria's closest ally —

decided to hold early parliamentary elections. President Zhelev said he would ask the Socialists to form a new government only if they agreed to hold elections.

Ivan Kostov, the opposition leader, vowed yesterday to paralyse the political and economic life of the country. "We are preparing for a nationwide strike," he said. He was backed by trade union leaders and students from Sofia University.

As the students marched through the capital and protesters massed outside the cathedral, Mr Zhelev gave a warning that the situation was "explosive", with the brutal police crackdown on Friday's protests providing a "detonator". Russia —

expressed alarm, saying its status as an "island of stability" in the Balkans was at risk. "Bulgaria is bleeding after the night of the long clubs," said *Trud* newspaper. The Holy Synod ordered Masses to be said for peace throughout the country of seven million Orthodox Christians.

The protests are partly inspired by the anti-Milosevic demonstrations in Serbia. But whereas the Serbian rallies have been largely peaceful, protests here quickly turned violent. There is widespread disillusionment with the Socialists, who as orthodox communists ruled Bulgaria for four decades with authoritarian ruthlessness and servility to Moscow, and despair over Bulgaria's descent into economic chaos since the advent of

democracy six years ago. On Friday, 50,000 demonstrators stormed the parliament building, smashing furniture and starting fires. Riot police, swinging clubs and firing blanks, forced their way into the building to rescue beleaguered MPs. The protesters resisted, shouting "Murderers, murderers". Nearly 200 demonstrators and ten policemen were injured in clashes.

Doctors at the hospital where injured protesters were taken said many had been clubbed on the head. "The wards look like a mini-Sarajevo," a doctor said. The wounded included Filip Dimitrov, a former Prime Minister. The parliament square was still being cleared of broken glass and debris.

## Time to admit an Anglo is not a Saxon

**THIS WEEK**  
  
**IN EUROPE**

The most terribly vivid of Thomas Kielinger's earliest memories is the day in 1945 when he and his mother fled their house in Danzig as Russian troops drove the retreating Germans out of town. Aged four, Thomas clung to his mother's skirt and screamed in fear.

"The road was torn up. We found ourselves standing in front of a monstrous tangle of wrecked buildings backed by purple-red hellfire," he remembers. Two days earlier, Russian soldiers had burst into the cellar where the Kielinger family had been hiding, seized his father and two older sisters and raped his younger sister on a coal heap in front of the

be like Germany and forget nationalism. There's no splitting the difference for you to decide."

Tony Blair's spin-doctors will tell you optimistic stories of how well things will go between Labour and Herr Kohl after the election: how skilfully Tony will handle the Chancellor, how warmly the two men got along when they talked for so long in Bonn last summer. But Herr Kohl has been making clear in private that he was not impressed by the young pretender at that meeting, and that anyway he never fell for the idea that a Labour government will transform Britain's relations with its EU partners.

Anglo-German diplomacy is headed for the deep freeze. Last week's *four-nation* opinion poll on Europe hinted that, unlike us, the Germans are learning to love the euro what has been a 2-1 majority opposed to losing the mark has shrunk to a bare 44-43 margin against.

I always thought this shift would take place once Herr Kohl began to suggest that, unless European unification was made irreversible by monetary union, postwar peace would be at risk. A Chancellor who tells German audiences that if the single currency fails they might again live through the kind of nightmare that the young Thomas Kielinger experienced exploits the most potent fear of all.

Labour's European instincts are trapped in an innocent illusion: that the gap between British and German long-term aims in the European Union can easily be bridged. A Labour prime minister who wanted a better dialogue with Germany would do better to go to Bonn and suggest that we acknowledge and live with our differences. As a wise British policy-maker reflected: "One among our many mistakes in Europe has been to assume that because the Germans aren't Latins, they're like us. They're not."

\* *Crossroads and Roundabouts: Junctures in German-British relations*, Bouvier Verlag, Bonn.

GEORGE BROCK

## Eight die as Italy's fast train crashes

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS  
IN ROME



Hallier made career of courting controversy

French mourn an enfant terrible

FROM BEN MACTINTYRE  
IN PARIS

JEAN-EDERN HALLIER, France's most flamboyant polemicist and literary provocateur, died yesterday after a bicycle accident in the Normandy resort of Deauville.

M. Hallier, 60, suffered a cerebral haemorrhage after falling during an early morning ride, police said.

A novelist, editor, politician and professional irritant for three decades, M. Hallier made a career out of courting controversy. Many of his stunts resulted in libel suits; at least one ended with M. Hallier, who was partially blind, challenging his opponents to a duel.

Once a close friend of François Mitterrand, he later fell out with the Socialist leader and was the first to reveal the existence of the former President's mistress and his illegitimate daughter, Mazarine. He claimed that Mitterrand plotted to kill him as a result of the disclosure.

M. Hallier's political views ranged from far-left to far-right. As the host of his own literary television talk-show, he brought a refreshing note of savagery to the polite world of French book reviewing.

AT LEAST eight people were killed when the *Pendolino*, Italy's high-speed train, ran off the tracks on its way to Rome yesterday.

About 50 people were injured when the "tilting train" derailed on a sharp curve approaching a station at Piacenza, some 30 miles south of Milan, from where it had set off. Among the passengers was Francesco Cossiga, the former Italian President, but he was unhurt.

"I heard a big bang and all of a sudden I was on the floor," Signor Cossiga said.

Police and firemen at the scene of the crash said more casualties could be inside the wreckage. Railway officials said the number of dead and injured could have been much higher — the train was carrying only 150 passengers but could carry 900 people.

The cause of the accident was not immediately known, police said, but they denied rumours that it might have been a terrorist attack. Right-wing terrorists have previously blown up several trains in Italy.

Trade union leaders said that several times in the past drivers had reported to the authorities inadequate warning of the curve where the accident happened, but that no action had been taken to improve safety.

A member of the crew told Italian state radio that "the train was going very fast and all of a sudden we found ourselves lying sideways. It was terrible."

Scores of firemen and rescue workers rushed to the scene to try to free those stuck inside. The *Pendolino* makes the Milan to Rome trip in four hours, half the time taken by normal express trains.

Italy's state-run railway board had planned an ambitious network of similar high-speed trains throughout Italy. But the programme hit a setback last year when the chairman of the railway board resigned after he was arrested on charges of corruption and bribery in connection with contracts for the scheme.

## US envoy fears growing risk of Cyprus conflict

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA  
AND JOHN CARR IN ATHENS

CAREY CAVANAUGH, the American envoy, arrived in Cyprus last night and issued a warning that the prospects for conflict in the eastern Mediterranean were rising and the divided island's future could be at a "pivotal point".

The State Department official criticised the Nicosia Government's decision to buy Russian-made anti-aircraft missiles, but insisted nothing could justify Turkish military action. "We may be at a pivotal point regarding the future of Cyprus. The political atmosphere has worsened. Prospects for conflict are rising."

In Athens, Costas Simitis, the Greek Prime Minister, summoned his ministers of defence and foreign affairs for a meeting today to moderate his country's diplomatic response to Turkey. Tension mounted on the island as President Clerides insisted that there was no question of Nicosia rescinding

its missile deal with Russia. General Ismail Hakkı Karayav, Turkey's military chief of staff, is due in Turkish-controlled northern Cyprus today for two days of talks with Turkish Cypriot leaders.

"Our acquisition of the missiles is not negotiable," Mr Clerides said hours before Mr Cavanaugh arrived. After separate talks with Mr Clerides and Rauf Denktas, the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Cavanaugh flies to Greece tonight and then on to Turkey.

Mr Simitis, who has taken a low-key approach, is facing a potential revolt from Socialist bankrollers who are demanding more aggressive support for the Cypriot decision to buy the missiles.

Turkish newspapers reported at the weekend that Ankara was considering blocking the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles to prevent the Russian missiles reaching Cyprus.

Leading article, page 19

**Cheaper car insurance**  
**ADIMIRAL**  
0800 600 800

**MESH Computers Plc are the UK's Number 1 Award Winning PC Manufacturer for 1996.**

To celebrate this fantastic achievement we have created a limited edition system, with full multimedia, at the amazing price of only £849 + VAT\*.

PLUS: the first 500 orders will be supplied with a FREE 33,600 Fax/Modem with Voice Messaging! These systems are available now - in our warehouse - Ready to Go!

They are available at this special price on a first come, first served basis while stocks last and can be delivered within 5 days\*.

Don't miss out - call 0181 452 1111 now!

**MESH Elite 120 Connect Media**

- Intel Pentium 120MHz Processor
- 16 Mbyte Fast EDO RAM
- 1Gb Fast Access E-IDE Hard Disk
- 256Kb Burst Mode Cache
- 2Mb SDRAM Tornado Graphics with s/w MPEG
- 14" ADI SVGA Colour Monitor
- 8 Speed CD ROM
- Latest Plug & Play Soundblaster Vtura 16
- Creative Labs Stereo Speakers
- 33,600Fax/Modem with Voice Messaging, Pipex Internet Access & Telnet\*
- Microsoft Home CD Collection
- Accent Express Multilingual Word Processor

Intel Triton chipset based on Dual Channel Fast Enhanced IDE controller  
2 fast serial, 1 parallel & 1 game port @ 1.44 Mb 3.5" Floppy Drive  
16Mb DRAM, 1Gb Fast Access E-IDE Hard Disk  
256Kb Burst Mode Cache  
2Mb SDRAM Tornado Graphics with s/w MPEG  
14" ADI SVGA Colour Monitor  
8 Speed CD ROM  
Latest Plug & Play Soundblaster Vtura 16

33,600Fax/Modem with Voice Messaging, Pipex Internet Access & Telnet\*

All software pre-installed and supplied on original media

\*£33.600 includes a FREE Fax/Modem with Voice Messaging, Pipex Internet Access & Telnet

**TO ORDER CALL 0181 452 1111**

THE UK's No. 1 AWARD WINNING PC MANUFACTURER IN 1996

## New Hong Kong chief to visit West

Hong Kong: The Chief Executive designate of Hong Kong, Tung Chee-hwa, is to tour Western countries "to give a real picture" of the colony after the handover to China in July (Jonathan Mirsky writes).

Elin Wong, his spokeswoman, said: "Mr Tung feels some Western countries do not

really understand the real situation." She did not specify when he would make the trip, but said it might be before the transfer of sovereignty.

The administration that Mr Tung is to head — the Provisional Legislative Council, which will take over from the elected Legislative Council on

July 1 — has come in for international criticism. This new body, like Mr Tung, has been picked by Peking.

Chris Patten, the Governor, maintains that the appointed legislature is illegitimate. Mr Tung insists it is legal, and criticises the elected chamber for being too political.

South Korea leaders in debate

# Bhutto uses Major visit to attack rival

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER  
POLITICAL EDITOR  
IN ISLAMABAD

JOHN MAJOR was drawn into the turmoil of Pakistani politics last night as Benazir Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, seized the opportunity of his visit to launch an outspoken attack on President Leghari, who dismissed her two months ago.

Mr Major flew into Islamabad from Bangladesh on the final stage of his three-country tour determined to be even-handed between the contenders in the February 3 elections. But Miss Bhutto turned on the charm as she arrived for a deliberately low-key meeting at the imposing and elegant residence of Sir Christopher Mac-

Rae, the British High Commissioner. A restricted protocol was agreed but, as he meets with all the candidates, Mr Major eschewed a press conference to show his neutrality.

Miss Bhutto, stylishly dressed in *salwar kameez* (tunic and trousers), Miss Bhutto was welcomed into the residence by Sir Christopher and Mr Major came down the stairs to greet her. Quickly noting that a handful of British journalists had been allowed in to witness the encounter, she declared: "I must say Prime Minister, you have all the luck. When I saw you last October, I thought, you would be facing a general election before I would." A smiling Mr Major responded: "Mine is not too far away." Their private talks went on

for 40 minutes and Mr Major was reported to have been in "listening mode". He told her that Britain, along with America, Germany, Canada and The Netherlands, would send observers to monitor the poll.

As she left and faced reporters outside, Miss Bhutto threw restraint aside. Although it is virtually certain that her Pakistan People's Party will contest the elections, she raised again the possibility that there might be a large-scale arrest of her candidates on the eve of the poll "which is why we are keeping our options open".

For the benefit of her wider than usual media audience, she voiced her contempt for President Leghari who sacked her Government on November 5 for alleged corruption and

financial irregularities, and his decision last week to set up a new Council for Defence and National Security with the heads of the armed services filling four of its ten seats, reviving accusations that he wants to return power to the military. Miss Bhutto backed the army and blamed the President for putting it into a sticky situation. With that she was away and back to her campaign.

Today Mr Major will meet the President, as well as Mian Nawaz Sharif, Miss Bhutto's rival and favourite to win. Mr Major is also likely to see Imran Khan, the former Pakistan Test captain and leader of the Justice Movement, tonight. Mr Major, while not taking sides, is telling all of them that there should

be a restoration of democratic government as soon as possible. The election should be free and fair with nobody excluded. He is, however, expected to ask some searching questions of President Leghari about the security council: he wants to know its exact role both before and after the election.

Mr Leghari defended his plans here yesterday. He said that a newly elected government could do away with the council if it felt it unnecessary.

■ Court backing: The Supreme Court ruled yesterday that the President can dismiss elected lawmakers, a verdict that could hurt Miss Bhutto's bid to have her Government returned to power. (AP)

## Yeltsin still battling pneumonia

Moscow: The Kremlin said yesterday that President Yeltsin had resumed some work in hospital, but there was still no sign that he was overcoming pneumonia (Richard Beeston writes). "To a significant degree, his activity has increased, and B.N. Yeltsin has begun to work on documents," said a Kremlin medical bulletin, which added that his temperature, blood pressure and pulse were normal.

Dr Sergei Mironov, the Kremlin physician, said the President could be discharged in days, but his inflammation of the lungs would take about three weeks to cure.

## Shuttle starts Mir mission

Cape Canaveral: The *Atlantis* space shuttle blasted off yesterday for the Mir Russian space station to pick up John Blaha, an American astronaut. The six-person shuttle crew includes Jerry Linenger, who will stay on Mir for 4½ months after tomorrow's scheduled docking. At the moment of the *Atlantis* launch, Mir was passing near the Galapagos Islands, some 2,400 miles away. (AP)

## New payments to former sex slaves

Tokyo: Seven South Korean women who were used as sex slaves by the Japanese Army during Second World War have each been paid five million yen (£23,000). Most of the women have refused to accept any of the money, which comes from a private fund and not directly from the Government. Up to 200,000 Koreans and Asians were used as sex slaves. (Reuters)

## Poor of Miami keep windfall

Miami: Four days after a Brinks armoured van carrying \$3.7 million (£22 million) crashed and dropped cash onto the streets of Miami's poorest suburb, an appeal to return the loot is having little success (David Adams writes). Of about \$350,000 pocketed by passers-by, only \$200 has been handed back. Most residents said they were hanging on to their "pennies from heaven".

## Parties in brush on colour plan

Jakarta: The mayor of the Indonesian town of Solo in central Java has threatened to take political rivals to court if they do not repaint pavements and trees in the colour of the ruling Golkar party. The United Development Party recently painted the public objects white after the local government had earlier painted them yellow — the Golkar colour. (Reuters)

## Performers hurt by Nigeria blast

Lagos: Four Nigerian street entertainers were injured, one seriously, when their performing monkey picked up an object, thought to be a hand grenade, from the gutter, a daily newspaper reported. One of the entertainers pulled the pin of the grenade after taking it from the monkey, which was also hurt in the explosion. (AFP)



Amid the grandeur of the Sistine Chapel, the Pope baptises Mauri Carla Teresa, from Mexico, to mark the feast of Christ's baptism yesterday. The pontiff, who baptised 19 newborn babies, said the sacrament was an "immense gift".

## South Korean strike leaders reject offer of debate over law

FROM REUTER IN SEOUL

SOUTH Korean union leader Kwon Young Kil said yesterday that striking workers would not compromise even though the Government appeared to be offering a peaceful solution to a three-week-old industrial crisis.

A fresh clash between riot police and workers over a controversial new labour law showed that tempers were still frayed. At least 3,000 workers and students fought with riot police as they tried to march out of Myeongdong Cathedral, in central Seoul, where Mr Kwon and six other union leaders have sought sanctuary from prosecutors seeking their arrest. Police fired teargas at the protesters, to force them back, sending shoppers scurrying for safety.

Mr Kwon dismissed the offer as a propaganda ploy. The main union body, the Federation of Korean Trade Unions, has also brushed aside the offer.

Mr Kwon said his 500,000-member union would strike on Wednesday if the law had not been scrapped. That would coincide with a call by the federation, which has 1.2 million members, to down tools for two days, starting tomorrow, in what would be the biggest strike in the country's history.

Mr Kwon, speaking outside a makeshift tent pitched in the grounds of the Gothic cathedral, said the strikers' resolve was undiminished and public support was growing.

"We will not accept the law... The public and the opposition parties will also not accept the law," said Mr Kwon, the president of the outlawed Korean Confederation of Trade Unions. "If the law comes into effect, it will destroy 12 million

## French relish Disney version of Hugo's historic hunchback

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

LONG before Walt Disney's cartoon version of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* reached French cinema screens, critics here were predicting it would be historically inaccurate, simplistic and a travesty of the novel by Victor Hugo, the great 19th-century writer.

They were right on all counts, but instead of flopping,

the film has proved a smash hit in France, shooting to number two at the French box office and prompting a resurgence of interest in the life and works of Hugo.

For some, the film's success

is a further sign of the unstoppable march of Mickey Mouse, but for others it is proof of the vitality of French culture, for many intellectual commentators have hailed the cartoon as a moral parable about illegal immigration.

The theme of discrimination

is examined throughout the entire film, *Le Monde* declared. The daily *Liberation* agreed, insisting that "The Hunchback of Notre Dame tells nothing less than the tale of the illegal immigrants of Saint Bernard" — a reference to the row last summer when more than 200 African immigrants occupied the church of Saint Bernard in Paris before being forcibly evicted by riot police. In the Disney film, the

gypsy girl Esmeralda seeks refuge in Notre Dame and is advised by one of her allies to "demand the right of asylum".

By intellectualising the film, critics have been able to overlook the gulf that separates the Hugo and Disney versions: in the original, Quasimodo is a hideous monster who dies in the end, along with Esmeralda, while in the politically-correct Disney cartoon, the hunchback is cuddly and goes on to live, we assume, a fulfilling life.

The cartoon depiction of the cathedral has been widely praised for its architectural



Disney's happy Quasimodo is befriended by Esmeralda

## Dog disease threatens Serengeti lions

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

LIONS in one of Africa's biggest game reserves are in danger of being virtually wiped out by a disease spread by dogs, conservationists said today.

Canine distemper has killed more than 1,000 lions in Tanzania's Serengeti National Park — a third of the population — since 1994. If nothing is done, it is feared another outbreak will cause havoc with the next generation of cubs. The disease

is common in dogs but often fatal to lions, killing at least half of those infected. Researchers have discovered that canine distemper is being passed to lions, from dogs owned by the Masai and other local people, via hyenas and jackals.

The World Society for the Protection of Animals is funding an intensive three-year programme to vaccinate more than 20,000 dogs in the region against distemper and rabies. Clinics will also be

held to develop methods of birth control in the dog population.

Dr Sarah Cleaveland, a research fellow at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and a consultant for the society, said: "The lions are becoming increasingly vulnerable to another outbreak of distemper, with the risks increasing all the time as the dog population rises. We are in a race against time if we are to save the next generation."

**DEAN KOONTZ**

OUT NOW IN HARDBACK

**KOONTZ**

SOLE SURVIVOR

© 1996 by Dean Koontz. All rights reserved. Published by HarperCollins Publishers Inc. ISBN 0-06-092280-2. Manufactured in the U.S.A.

...NOT JUST  
A MASTER  
OF OUR  
DARKEST  
DREAMS, BUT  
ALSO A  
LITERARY  
JUGGLER'

*The Times*

**KOONTZ**

**TICKLE**

**KOONTZ**

**TICKLERS**

OUT NOW IN PAPERBACK

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR CONSUMERS AND RETAILERS**

**MEDICINE  
BAYLIES  
PARACETAMOL TABLETS  
B.P. 500 mg  
POTS OF 25 TABLETS**

The above product is being recalled as no dosage instructions have been printed on the label.

Each box contains - shown on the left hand label edge - over 6759, 6774, 6807, 6809, 6813, 6826

Please return the container to your retailer for a replacement pack, taking note of the batch code.

We apologise for the inconvenience caused.

For further information contact our helpline or  
FREPHONE 0800 123 3763

**NO GUARANTEE**

**BAYLIES PRODUCE ARE INVOLVED**

To begin a career, there is still no substitute for university. To change it takes courage.

# At last, something to celebrate

1997 January

New Year  
New Job

With demand for graduates outstripping supply, university is the path to a good career. But should students choose arts or science, asks Anjana Ahuja

**D**eciding whether to go to university — and what to study there if you do — is one of the most momentous decisions a young person can make. The problem is assessing whether three years of grim student flats, Oxfam shops, late-night cramming and insults from taxi drivers is worth it. Is your detailed knowledge of Proust, naval history or the second law of thermodynamics really going to set a prospective employer's pulse racing?

Some argue that young people benefit more from apprentice-style jobs or vocational training: earning a salary while learning something that will be of genuine use to a prospective employer. But on top of the cultural and social advantages, a university degree is likely to be your most potent weapon when it comes to finding a job.

Last week, an annual survey by the Association for Graduate Recruiters forecast that vacancies for graduates will grow by 11.5 per cent this year, and this will prompt employers to push up starting salaries.

The reason is that business is going global. To become world-class enterprises, they need to recruit the best people. At the very least, that means good-quality graduates. There has never been a better time, it seems, to pack your bags and head off to the ivory towers.

Once you have decided that university is for you, one of the first problems you will face is whether to study arts or sciences. So, if you are about to decide, which way should you go?

From a down-to-earth point of view, doing a science or engineering degree could be a shrewd move. The steady decline in gifted recruits to these fields has led to a shortfall in a number of professions, notably teaching. According to the simple rules of supply and demand, this imbalance ought soon to be reflected in the salaries offered.

For those committed to such disciplines, a science subject could also be a passport to a leading university, according to statistics released by Cambridge and Oxford Universities. Applicants for the natural sciences degree at Cambridge have a better than one-in-three chance of success — not bad odds if you fancy sharing your alma mater with arguably the greatest scientist in history, Sir Isaac Newton.

At Oxford University, one in two applicants for biological sciences courses secures a place — and the chances of gaining admission to read chemistry are better than 50:50. Physics offers a better than one-in-three chance, while earth sciences and engineering both offer a better than even chance of getting in.

These contrast favourably with Oxford and Cambridge degrees such as law, English and economics. But both medicine and veterinary medicine, which demand excellent science A levels, are still notoriously hard to break into.

To become world-class enterprises they need to recruit the best'

Would-be doctors stand only a 14 per cent chance of securing a place. If you feel you can commit yourself for three years but are not sure what you want to do afterwards, do not despair. There is a growing acceptance of science subjects in unrelated areas — and therefore more scope for switching careers after university. Employers in the world of banking and finance have been particularly quick to recognise the value of technical degrees.

All the big accountancy firms, plus merchant and investment banks, are very keen to recruit science and engineering graduates, which is why they always target our institution," says John Simpson, director of the careers service at Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine. "A lot of the training, such as the high level of numeracy, is relevant to finance. And nearly all our graduates are highly computer literate."

Towers Perrin, an international finance company, recruits graduates each year to train as actuaries — mathematical whiz-kids who assess long-term risks and probabilities for the finance markets, especially the insurance and pensions industries. Its selection criteria are strict — at least an upper second honours degree in a scientific or numerate discipline, plus at least grade B in A-level mathematics.

"Graduates in these disciplines are extremely attractive right across the finance industry," says Heather Smith, from Towers Perrin in London. "Our recruits need to be extremely good because the training is tough. The actuarial exams are regarded by many as harder than accountancy exams and take an average of seven years to complete, although our average is about four years."

"Actuaries are well-regarded and highly respected in the industry. It may be difficult to make it but once they do, the world is their oyster with salaries to match."

Andersen Consulting in London is a well-known management consultancy company which appreciates science and engineering graduates. Out of its annual intake of 300 graduates, 55 per cent come from these disciplines.

"Science is very good at training people to think in a certain way," explains Sam Clark, graduate recruitment manager at Andersen Consulting. "They are taught to be logical, and to analyse problems. They are also computer literate. All these skills are very useful to us because our clients have a wide range of problems."

She adds: "We do particularly well with the engineering disciplines, because there is usually a commercial element to the training. Engineers have a good blend of scientific and business skills, which is highly valued."

A ndersen Consulting in London is a well-known management consultancy company which appreciates science and engineering graduates. Out of its annual intake of 300 graduates, 55 per cent come from these disciplines.

"Science is very good at training people to think in a certain way," explains Sam Clark, graduate recruitment manager at Andersen Consulting. "They are taught to be logical, and to analyse problems. They are also computer literate. All these skills are very useful to us because our clients have a wide range of problems."

She adds: "We do particularly well with the engineering disciplines, because there is usually a commercial element to the training. Engineers have a good blend of scientific and business skills, which is highly valued."



Celebrating an end to years of student poverty, and saying hello to a brighter future

The prospect of switching career may seem daunting, but a change can be as good as a rest

For most people, January means a reluctant return to work after the festive season rather than a time for making fundamental changes. Yet it was almost exactly a year ago that I chose to change careers. I was teaching politics at Christ Church, Oxford, and had been a lecturer at the university for almost six years. I now write for *The Times*.

I had several reasons for making the switch. Although I enjoyed the company of my students and was fond of the college, I felt frustrated in my work. There seemed little chance of advancing my career and little that I could do to increase my prospects.

I was increasingly irritated by the trends within my profession, where my interests in questions such as "who wins elections?" and "what becomes policy?" were regarded with curiosity by colleagues obsessed by arcane methodology. That the university seemed to be slipping into a swamp of political correctness, symbolised to me by the dubious decision to abolish its entrance examination, simply compounded the issue. The logical option was to leave.

Added to this were the practical implications. As my children were settled in Oxford schools that we were very satisfied with, and I saw no good reason for their lives to be inconvenienced, I would have to join the throng who commuted daily to London — a journey made longer by the fact that Wapping lies east of the City, making prolonged exposure to the London Underground inevitable. Given the horror stories I had heard from many others about life as the hapless hostage of public transport, this was a distinctly unappealing prospect.

Six months on, though, the advantages of my career change have far outweighed the drawbacks. The weeks immediately after I agreed to join *The Times* were marked by a powerful wave of elation and liberation. Frustration has largely been displaced by a new sense of adventure. My new post has allowed me to think and write across much wider terrain than I ever did in Oxford.

True, there are some disadvantages. The physical surroundings have proved a contrast. Oxford is blessed with some beauty, a side of the city I have come to appreciate rather more for working elsewhere. When I was at Christ Church, my teaching rooms were in the base of Tom Tower, built by Christopher Wren, and my windows looked out on the magnificence of a quadrangle designed for Cardinal Wolsey. The News International plant is not quite in the same league, either for history or for architectural splendour.

Here I sit in a windowless, air-conditioned box, looking out at Mary Ann Sieghart.

And then there is commuting — not the train from Oxford to London, which I find both relaxing and very conducive to work, but the Underground. At times it can take as long to get across London as to travel the 60 or so miles to it.

Despite these distractions, though, I know I made the right choice last January. In retrospect, I should have had the courage of my convictions much earlier. If others recognise the symptoms of career angst identified here, then my advice would be to take similar risks. The frustration that you are selling yourself short has a corrosive power that goes well beyond the workplace. A change is not merely a matter for me. Large chunks of the year involved the uni-



TIM JAMES

the law

Beverley K

Pain?

Stress

Health

Work

Family

Friends

Health

Work

Family

and if you are brave you may even decide to work with your friends

# How to get on top of the job

**Mariella Frostrup** on how giving up office work does not always lead to domestic bliss

For the third day running I was still in my pyjamas at 7pm. My living room was littered with an explosion of debris that would not have looked out of place in a squat. It included overflowing ashtrays, empty coffee mugs, my dirty breakfast cereal bowl and an empty packet of Shreddies. These were the last edible things in my larder and I had been eating them straight from the box since the milk ran out at noon. I would have to get dressed after all if I wanted a sandwich.

It was my third month of working from home.

My years of being office-bound, from which I had been desperate to escape, had begun to induce a sense of nostalgia. Remembering the days of sharing the cappuccino run and exchanging gossip nearly brought me to tears.

I remembered the thrill, after a day at work, of coming home to a tidy living room and settling in for a night glued to the television.

Now I could not find my television. It was buried under a mass of newspapers, bills, letters and books; all of which I had been intending to file for weeks. The answer machine was blinking 20 unread messages and "only two minutes of tape left". If I had called the police I would have had no trouble convincing them that my apartment had been ransacked. The time had come for serious action.

The problem was, what were the alternatives? Should I phone around my friends to see if anyone had a spare desk in their office? If by a stroke of luck they did it was bound to be open plan in which case, would I get anything done? Should I rent an office of my own, somewhere? Rents starting at £250 a week soon put me off that idea.

I was at a loss until messaged came through in early June of last year from my friend and neighbour Emma Freud. "Hello it's Emma, we've had a brilliant idea and I need to talk to you about it." A brilliant idea, what could it be? I called back immediately. "Richard [Curtis - her partner] and I have found a wonderful office space just off Portobello Road. We think it would be great to get a bunch of freelance people together who are sick of working from home and make a co-operative."

The woman is psychic, I thought, as I hurried to have a look. It was perfect. A spacious, light main room leading to many little box rooms made infinitely more habitable by the huge sash windows they boasted. It could not have been better. It was cheap, close to home

and somebody else was going to organise it.

Emma had already decided on the decor - wooden floorboards and white walls. It was budget rather than style that dictated her choice, but the result was perfect. We would supply our own furniture, she and Richard the phone system.

Two months later a motley crew of friends and acquaintances moved into what was now grandly named "Portobello Studios".

Emma ransacked Ikea and returned triumphant with the biggest desk we had ever seen. My room was the first to be furnished because I could not wait to move the accumulated muck from home.

Ruby Wax insisted that all she wanted was a futon and a little cloud over her head. Eventually, having strained her back trying to type lying down, she gave in and bought a desk.

Sally Brampton, the writer, was the only person working. While we lounged around in what had become the living room thanks to a generous donation of two sofas, she could be heard clacking away on her computer.

Slowly things settled down and giddy excitement turned to a niggling worry about the ratio of work to socialising. Friday afternoons were devoted to sharing our tales of woe from the preceding week. An enormous bar of chocolate, bought with petty cash, was awarded to whoever had suffered most.

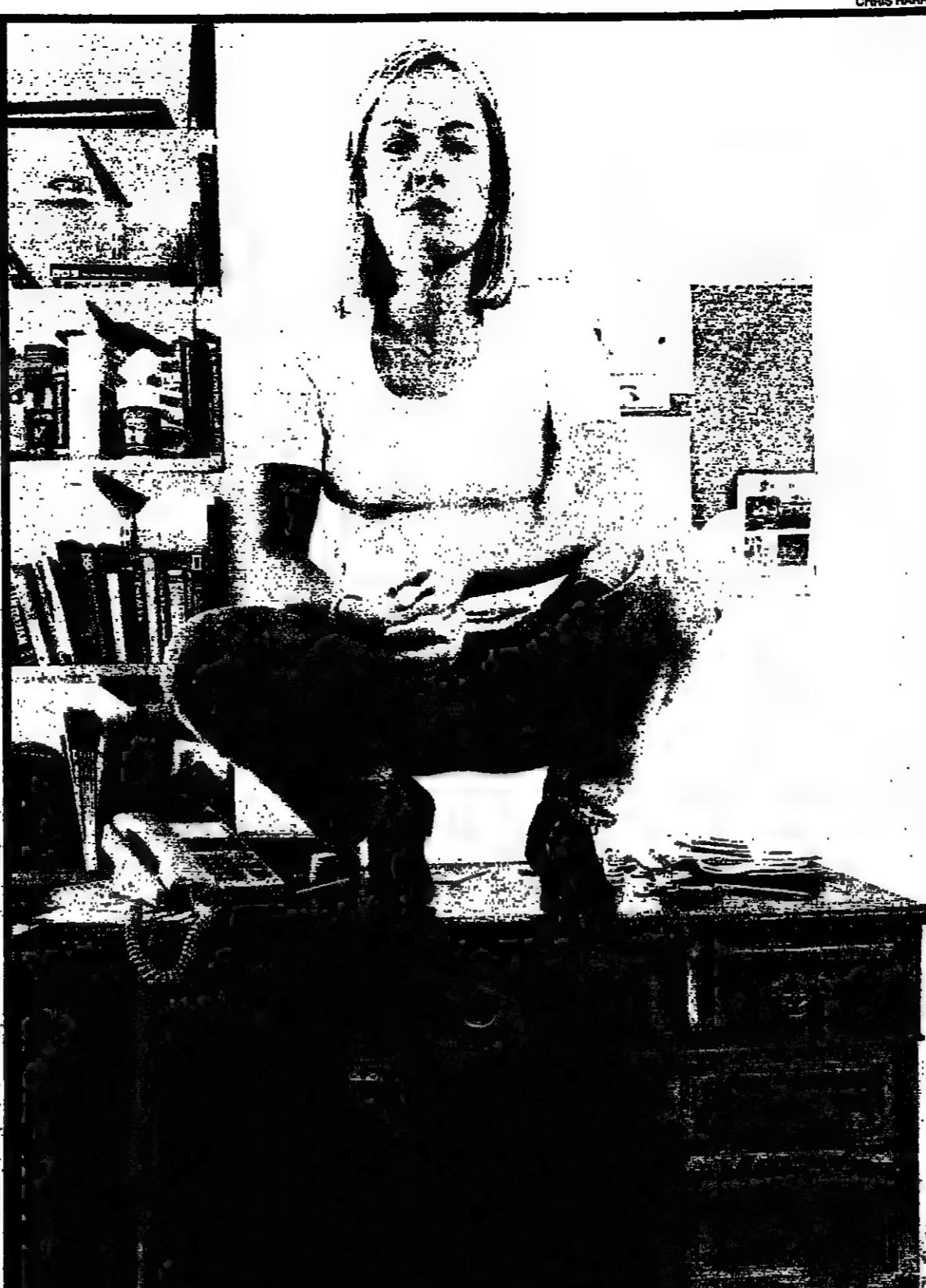
When Peter Godwin, another of our strong, won the Esquire Non-Fiction Award for *Mukisa*, Helen Fielding won the chocolate to help her to get over the disappointment.

The fact that her book *Bridget Jones Diary* was fiction and not eligible did not seem to matter.

Four months later the heady days of the chocolate award and the communal lottery ticket are behind us. The office has become a refuge, a place where the phone is mainly for calls out and we have the peace to get on with our work.

I have a reason to get dressed in the morning and discipline has returned to my formerly chaotic life. It feels like having a proper job but with all the freedom that self-employment brings.

My office now resembles my old living room, with overflowing ashtrays and old coffee cups but there's home to escape to after work. Most importantly, with my piles of paperwork now cluttering my office, I have been able to find my television again: life would be perfect if I could find something worth watching.



After working from home, Mariella Frostrup has decided that an office environment promotes self-discipline

## 'My living room was littered with an explosion of debris'

Slowly things settled down and giddy excitement turned to a niggling worry about the ratio of work to socialising. Friday afternoons were devoted to sharing our tales of woe from the preceding week. An enormous bar of chocolate, bought with petty cash, was awarded to whoever had suffered most.

When Peter Godwin, another of our strong, won the Esquire Non-Fiction Award for *Mukisa*, Helen Fielding won the chocolate to help her to get over the disappointment.

The fact that her book *Bridget Jones Diary* was fiction and not eligible did not seem to matter.

Four months later the heady days of the chocolate award and the communal lottery ticket are behind us. The office has become a refuge, a place where the phone is mainly for calls out and we have the peace to get on with our work.

I have a reason to get dressed in the morning and discipline has returned to my formerly chaotic life. It feels like having a proper job but with all the freedom that self-employment brings.

My office now resembles my old living room, with overflowing ashtrays and old coffee cups but there's home to escape to after work. Most importantly, with my piles of paperwork now cluttering my office, I have been able to find my television again: life would be perfect if I could find something worth watching.

# From the law to the pulpit

**Beverley Kemp** meets a solicitor who has decided to become a priest

Even as he started his articles with a firm of solicitors in Gravesend, Kent, William Agley was considering becoming a priest. "I realised that the thoughts would never go away until I'd given it a go," he says. "There was nothing

to lose because I already had a profession I could return to if I discovered the priesthood wasn't for me."

Four and a half years ago, after qualifying as a lawyer, he entered a seminary in Guildford, Surrey. Now aged 28, he becomes a deacon on June 28 and will be ordained in 1998.

"When I was at school, I thought about the priesthood, but it's generally recommended that you do something else first," he says. "Law had always been a subject I was interested in. Obviously there are a lot of things I miss now I am in the seminary. I'd become quite close to some of my colleagues in the firm, and I miss that feeling of camaraderie and the general hubbub of criminal law. If I'm being honest, I also miss the income. My salary as a newly qualified lawyer was £18,000. My grant now is £8,500."

"But accommodation and food are free, and students usually work throughout the holidays... Everyone in the seminary is in the same boat, so there's no pressure to live above your means. We all understand that we can't afford to go out for expensive meals twice a week."

"One of the most difficult aspects for me has been celibacy. I'd be lying if I said it was always going to be easy. Priests are human beings, after all. I've had to ask myself the question: 'Can I freely choose this?' I have never had a long-term relationship and I do believe in celibacy."

"In an exclusive partnership between two people, your love is directed to another person. But in celibacy, I take comfort from the fact that I do believe in celibacy."

am able to offer the love that I might have given to a partner more widely and also receive it from the people I will be serving in my parish.

"Getting married and having a family were certainly things I often thought about before. The reality that I will never have my own family has been particularly hard to deal with. Fortunately, I have a niece and a nephew whom I love very much. There are still times when I feel broody, but deep inside I know that if I were engaged in bringing up a family, or in a sexual relationship, I would never be able to give all of myself."

"I derive a lot of emotional support from intimate, non-sexual relationships with friends. Many of those friendships have deepened since I entered the seminary. People close to me have asked me several soul-searching questions, and I've been forced to reveal a lot of personal information about myself. My friends have been totally supportive."

"At first, my parents were very upset about my decision."

"My father felt that I was throwing away a good job and a stable future. My mother had the usual maternal concerns such as 'Who's going to look after you when you're old?' But they seem much happier about the idea these days. Only recently, my mother told me that she sees now that I am much happier."

"I have been called by God to follow a way of life which I believe is the right path for me, and I consider that a very powerful gift. Not many people have the opportunity to do what makes them truly happy in life."

## Back Pain? Painful Sleep?

Your sleeping posture is more important than you think.



Tension free sleep is vital to your health.

The Tempur Mattress and Pillow mould to the body, resulting in optimum distribution of pressure.

SLEEP ON IT FOR 60 NIGHTS WITH COMPLETE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE... you can only win...

The Tempur Mattress and Pillow are recommended by more than 15,000 medical professionals.

Ask your Physiotherapist Chiropractor or Osteopath.

Please send me details on the Tempur Mattress & Pillow

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Send coupon to: Tempur - Pedic (UK) Ltd FREEPOST (HA 4653) Greenford, Middlesex UB6 0BR or call 0800 616 135

## YOU GET MORE FOR YOUR MONEY WITH CELLPHONES DIRECT

NOKIA GSM MODEL 1610 GEM DIGITAL PHONES WITH 1 SECOND BILLING

- ◆ Up to 3.5 hrs talk-time
- ◆ Up to 100 hrs standby-time
- ◆ Up to 200 name/number memory stored on SIM
- ◆ NiMH battery & fast travel charger
- ◆ Fast recharge - 85 mins
- ◆ Weight 250g

ONLY £9.99 inc. VAT

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

SIEMENS GSM MODEL 55 NEW MODEL

- ◆ Up to 4 hrs talk-time
- ◆ Up to 30 hrs standby-time
- ◆ Up to 200 name/number memory stored on SIM
- ◆ Lithium ion battery
- ◆ Fast recharge
- ◆ Super slim design
- ◆ Weight 145g

ONLY £9.99 inc. VAT

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

NEC GSM MODEL GS SPECIAL OFFER

- ◆ Up to 240 mins talk-time\*
- ◆ Up to 48 hrs standby-time\*
- ◆ Up to 200 name/number memory stored on SIM
- ◆ 2 batteries & rapid desk-top charger
- ◆ Weight 235g

ONLY £4.99 inc. VAT

\*Combinable figures when using both batteries

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus FREE in-car adaptor/charger and leather case together worth over £90

With FREE line rental for 2 months plus

# The Private Anne Frank

Otto Frank,  
Anne's father

**Hiding from the Nazis, Anne Frank and Peter van Daan discovered the first stirrings of adolescent love. Extracts from her diary, suppressed until now because of their sometimes painful candour, describe their unfolding friendship**

FROM June 12, 1942, to August 1, 1944, when, aged 15, she was arrested by the Nazis, Anne Frank kept an intimate diary. It was a record of her life in hiding, cloistered in a secret annex at 203 Prinsengracht, Amsterdam, with her parents, sister Margot, and four others, Mr and Mrs van Daan, their son, Peter and, later, a dentist, Mr Dussel. A child when she entered the annex, by the time she was taken to her death in Belsen, Anne had become a young woman with a burning ambition to write. After the war Otto Frank decided to honour his daughter's wish and publish her diaries. In 1947, it was not usual for a young girl to write about sex, and he omitted passages dealing with this. Out of respect for the dead, he also left out unflattering descriptions of other inhabitants of the annex. These passages, now restored in a definitive edition of the diaries, are printed in heavy type.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1942**  
Peter van Daan arrived at 9.30 in the morning. Peter's going on 16, a shy, awkward boy whose company won't amount to much. Mr and Mrs van Daan came half an hour later. Much to our amusement, Mrs van Daan was carrying a harbox with a large chamber

pot inside. "I just don't feel at home without my chamber pot," she exclaimed, and it was the first item to find a permanent place under the divan. Instead of a chamber pot, Mr van D. was lugging a collapsible tea table under his arm.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 21, 1942**  
I don't think Peter's got any nicer. He's an obnoxious boy who lies around on his bed all day, only rousing himself to

do a little carpentry work before returning to his nap. What a twit!

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 1942**  
Mr and Mrs van Daan have

had a terrible argument I've never seen anything like it, since Mother and Father wouldn't dream of shouting at each other like that. The argument was based on something so trivial it didn't seem worth wasting a single word on it. Oh well, to each his own.

Of course, it's very difficult for Peter, who gets caught in the middle, but no one takes Peter seriously any more, since he's hypersensitive and lazy. Yesterday he was beside himself with worry because his tongue was blue instead of pink.

This rare phenomenon disappeared as quickly as it came. Today he's walking around with a thick scar on his neck. His Highness has been complaining of lumbago, too. Aches and pains in his heart, kidneys and lungs are also par for the course. He's an absolute hypochondriac (that's the right word, isn't it?).

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 1942**  
A lamp has been mounted

above my divan bed so that in the future, when I hear the guns going off, I'll be able to pull a cord and switch on the light. I can't use it at the moment because we're keeping our window open a little, day and night.

The male members of the van Daan contingent have built a very handy wood-stained food safe, with real screws. Up now this glorious cupboard has been located in Peter's room but in the interests of fresh air it's been moved to the attic where it once stood, there's now a shelf. I advised Peter to put his table underneath the shelf, add a nice rug and hang his own cupboard where the table now stands. That might make him a little cubbyhole more comfy, though I certainly wouldn't like to sleep there.

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1942**  
That night I lay in bed and cried my eyes out, all the while making sure no one could hear me. The idea that I had to beg Peter for favours was simply revolting. But people will do almost anything to satisfy their longings: take me, for example. I've made up my mind to visit Peter more often and, somehow, get him to talk to me. You mustn't think I'm in love with Peter, because I'm not. If the van Daans had had a daughter instead of a son, I'd have tried to make friends with her.

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1942**  
Yesterday was Peter's birthday, his sixteenth. I was upstairs by eight, and Peter and I looked at his presents. He received a game of Monopoly, a razor and a cigarette lighter. Not that he smokes so much, not at all; it just looks so distinguished.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 19, 1944**  
I dreamt about Peter again last night and once again I felt his eyes penetrate mine, but this dream was less vivid and not quite as beautiful as the last.

You know that I always used to be jealous of Margot's relationship with Father. There's not a trace of my jealousy left now. I still feel hurt when Father's nerves cause him to be unreasonable towards me, but then I think, "I can't blame you for

talking about sex, they were either secretive or disgusting. Any words having to do with sex were spoken in a low whisper, and those who weren't in the know were often laughed at.

That struck me as odd, and I often wondered why people were so mysterious or obnoxious when they talked about this subject. But because I couldn't change things, I said as little as possible or asked my girlfriends for information.

Peter van Daan wasn't ever as obnoxious about this subject as the boys at school. Or maybe just once or twice, in the beginning, though he wasn't trying to get me to talk. Mrs van Daan once told us she'd never discussed these matters with Peter, and as far as she knew, neither had her husband.

Apparently she didn't even know how much Peter knew or where he got his information.

Yesterday, when Margo, Peter and I were peeling potatoes, the conversation somehow turned to Boche. "We're still not sure whether Boche is a boy or a girl, are we?" I asked.

"Yes we are," he answered.

"Boche is a tomcat."

"I was horsing around with the cat one day, and I could definitely see it was a 'he'."

That afternoon I heard Peter go downstairs. I mustered the courage to walk through the silent house by myself and reached the warehouse. Boche was on the packing table, playing with Peter, who was getting ready to put him on the scales and weigh him.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**  
Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?

**MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 1944**

Before I came here, whenever anyone at home or at school

was the way you are. You talk so much about the minds of children and adolescents, but you don't know the first thing about them! I long for more than Father's affection; more than his hugs and kisses. Isn't it awful of me to be so preoccupied with myself? Shouldn't I, who want to be good and kind, forgive them first? I forgive Mother too, but every time she makes a sarcastic remark or laughs at me, it's all I can do to control myself.

I know I'm far from being what I should; will I ever be?



Peter van Daan, left, and Anne Frank, right: "It gave me a wonderful feeling when I looked into his dark blue eyes. I could read his innermost thoughts and in his face I saw a look of helplessness and uncertainty as to how to behave."

are a few stray hairs, and that's his backside." The car flipped over and stood up on his little white feet. If any other boy had pointed out the "male sexual organ" to me, I would never have given him a second glance. But Peter went on talking in a normal voice about what is otherwise a very awkward subject. Nor did he have any ulterior motives. By the time he'd finished, I was so much at ease that I started acting normally too. We played with Boche, had a good time, chatted a bit and finally sauntered through the long warehouse to the door.

"Were you there when Mouschi was fixed?"

"Yes, of course. It doesn't take long. Naturally, they give the cat an anaesthetic."

"Do they take something out?"

"No, the vet just snips the tube. There's nothing to see on the outside."

I had to get up my nerve to ask a question, since it wasn't as "normal" as I thought.

"Peter, the German word 'Geschlechtsstiel' means 'sexual organ', doesn't it? But then the male and female ones have different names."

"I know that."

"The female one is a vagina, that I know, but I don't know what it's called in males."

"Hmm."

"Oh well," I said. "How are we supposed to know these words? Most of the time you just come across them by accident."

"Why wait? I'll ask my parents. They know more than I do and they've had more experience." We were already on the stairs, so nothing more was said.

Yes, it really did happen. I'd never have talked to a girl about this in such a normal tone of voice. I'm also certain that this isn't what Mother meant when she warned me about boys.

## TOMORROW

● As Anne's feelings for Peter van Daan develop, she finds herself on the brink of her first love affair.

● Poised between childhood and becoming a woman, Anne explores her feelings about the changes taking place in her body and her emotions. With an insight remarkable for her age, she investigates her sexual feelings and wonders what the future holds

**TUESDAY**  
FEBRUARY 17, 1944  
I was upstairs this morning and I promised Mrs van D. to read her some of my stories. I began with *Eve's Diary*, which she liked a lot, and then I read a few passages from *The Secret Annex*, which had been in print. Peter also listened for a while (just the last part) and asked if I'd come to his room tomorrow. So I read more. I brought a book to read him right then and there, so I got my exercise-book and let him read that bit where Cady and Hans talk about God.

I can't really tell what kind of impression it made on him. He said something I don't quite remember, not about whether it was good, but about the idea behind it. I told him I just wanted him to see that I didn't write only amusing things. He nodded, and I left the room. Well see if I hear anything more!

**FRIDAY,**  
FEBRUARY 20, 1944  
Whenever I go upstairs, it's always so I can see "him". Now that I have something to look forward to, my life here has improved greatly.

At least the object of my friendship is always here, and I don't have to be afraid of rivals (except for Margot). Don't think I'm in love, because I'm not, but I do have the feeling that something beautiful is going to develop between Peter and me, a kind of friendship and a feeling of trust. I go and see him whenever I get the chance, and it's not the way it used to be, when he didn't know what to make of me. On the contrary, he's still talking away as I'm heading out of the door. Mother doesn't like me going upstairs. She always says I'm bothering Peter and that I should leave him alone. Honestly, can she credit me with some intuition? She al-



Over 1.8 million people are exposed to dangerously high noise levels in the workplace every year.

It could leave them permanently deaf, or with tinnitus, a constant and torturous ringing in the ears - and it could ruin their whole lives.

As an employer, it's your responsibility to make sure your workers' health and lives aren't at risk.

## IF YOU RUIN YOUR EMPLOYEES' HEALTH

## YOU RUIN THEIR WHOLE LIVES.

HSE's Good Health is Good Business Employers' Guide helps you protect your workers and your productivity. It helps you identify problems and find simple cost effective solutions.

For your free HSE Employers' Guide, simply fill in the coupon or phone the number below.

Do it now, and bring an end to this unnecessary suffering.

**0345 18 18 19**

Your Employees' Health is Your Business

 **GOOD HEALTH IS GOOD BUSINESS**

Please send me a free copy of HSE's Good Health is Good Business Employers' Guide

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel No: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send to: HSE Books (Dept 068), PO Box 1999, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 6FS. 277

## ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD



**■ VISUAL ART**  
Strange shapes emerge out of the everyday in Tony Cragg's Whitechapel show  
OPEN: Now  
REVIEW: Tomorrow



**■ DANCE**  
English National Ballet says farewell to the Festival Hall with *Coppélia*  
FIRST NIGHT: Tonight  
REVIEW: Wednesday



**■ THEATRE**  
Caroline Blakiston recalls her Moscow nights in *Black Bread and Cucumber* at the Jermyn Street Theatre  
OPENS: Wednesday  
REVIEW: Friday



**■ OPERA**  
Rising British singer Andrew Shore sings the title role as Verdi's *Falstaff* comes to the Grand, Leeds  
OPENS: Thursday  
REVIEW: Saturday

I am convinced that ITV's debate on the monarchy could be regarded as a landmark in television. In some ways it was a crude first draft, but groundbreaking programmes always are. It was a positive advance in our democratic conduct of politics. It showed once and for all that the British people long to have a direct voice on what governs them. It proved that they are hungry to have their opinions canvassed.

Television at last met a people increasingly disenchanted with politics — particularly young people — and drew them in to democratic debate by employing the reach and directness of the electronic medium. It points the way to a vigorous development in the political ecology which is becoming too slick, too cynical, altogether too packaged and confined for the strong debate clearly needed by a mature electorate. The British bulldog of frosty former times wants to burst from its leash, and on ITV it uttered a warning and a heartening growl.

There has inevitably, as with all things new, been huge hostility towards the programme. This has largely concentrated on complaints by the panelists that they were not given enough time to develop their points, and also that the atmosphere in Birmingham before 3,000 British subjects resembled a bear garden.

I'm sure I would have sympathised had I been panelist, but as a viewer I take a different view. First, as to the boos and hisses, the barracking and cheering — frankly, I thought this brought in a healthy smack of the old hustings. The microphone has made meetings open to the tyranny of the speaker. In Wigton, where I was born, at political meetings in the late 1940s and 1950s, the spirit of the hustings and heckling were part of the fun and part of the game. Today's political meetings

are anaemically reverential. Of course heckling can get out of hand, as it did when the militant wrecked Labour Party meetings in the early 1980s. But its utter elimination is almost as bad as its domination. On ITV's monarchy debate I thought that the balance was about right. And compared with some sessions of Parliament Question Time, it was unexceptional.

And although the panelists did not have as much time as they would have liked they were, after all, heard. Mary Ann Sieghart, for instance, wrote in this paper that she felt short-changed, but I was impressed by her. She made her points with clarity, coherence and urgency. F. Forsyth had more airtime than he would ever have been allowed on *Newsworld*. Terry Waite grumbled and then made an excellent point, as did others. Even

the more embattled contributors — Anthony Holden, Andrew Neil and Peter Hitchens, for example — got in good, hard points succinctly. The fact is that there are many different ways to mount a discussion. It is absurd to rule out a programme whose aim was clearly to enlist the active participation of more than two million British people in less than two hours on a subject clearly important to them. The monarchy is debated at length in newspapers and magazines — and many of the ITV panelists have good access there. It is debated in other ways on radio and television — and again our panelists are often the dramatic personae on such programmes. This programme reached out and provoked the biggest response ever to any broadcast question.

The panelists surely knew that their time would be limited — and as I said, the best made good use of it. More importantly, I hope that they understood that on this programme they were not hired to speak to a deferential audience, but to take their place among

many other voices. It was perfectly right for the ITV programme that the man who had volunteered for the First World War by lying about his age should have had his say. It was right that the woman who stood up and hurled her anger at Claire Rayner should be heard; that the young Scot should show off his radical views. The whole plot and point was that these were the voices of the people, and among these voices the panel were not the elders or the senators, but were of the people. This can't be looked at as something periodical.

The panelists surely knew that their time would be limited — and as I said, the best made good use of it. More importantly, I hope that they understood that on this programme they were not hired to speak to a deferential audience, but to take their place among

# No ugly ducklings on this royal lake

Tchaikovsky's great ballet is never far from the Covent Garden repertoire, a useful touchstone for assessing the performing health of the Royal Ballet. This time around the diagnosis is encouragingly upbeat: strong at the top and bottom, a little weak in the middle.

One of the reasons for *Swan Lake*'s popularity is that it shines a spotlight on the corps de ballet, the stunning backbone of the two "white" acts. The entry of the Royal's swans in Act II is a moment of glorious precision dancing, drilled to perfection and then beautifully polished.

*Swan Lake* is also full of delightful variations, and the quality of these vary from competent to — in the case of Belinda Hatley in one pas de

## DANCE

### Swan Lake Covent Garden

trois, and Hubert Essakow in another — excellent. There is also much to admire in Ashley Page's Von Rothbart, a characterisation so malicious and so delicious. And in the space of just a few minutes, William Tucker paints a touching cameo as the inept Tuor.

Miyako Yoshida and Irak Mukhammedov had first-cast honours as the leading couple. Not only is Yoshida an accomplished technician, she is also a dancer of the utmost clarity, particularly adept at mime. Her emphatic storytelling skills illuminate Odette's plight: the weighty sorrow inflicted by Von Rothbart's curse; the leap of faith that allows her to trust Sieghart.

Yoshida's Odette is not visually animated — she saves that for Odile, a complete about-face in interpretation that sees her emerge triumphant as a beguiling seductress. And to put the icing on the cake, Yoshida delivered a flawless set of fouette turns made even more formidable by turning every fourth one into a double pirouette.

Prince Sieghart is a good role for Mukhammedov. He is right at home in the story, giving the improbabilities of the narrative an emotional realism. Mukhammedov's tender attention to his ballerina is admirable and his solos are neatly judged to flatter both himself and the choreography.

DEBRA CRAINE



Anthony Dowell's decade-old *Swan Lake* is in good health at Covent Garden, although the designs have not improved with age

# FOR UNRIVALLED SPECIFICATION AND UNPARALLELED VALUE... CALL MAPLE!

## MAPLE Minerva Multimedia Systems



Maple is a subsidiary of Canada's largest privately owned PC manufacturing group, with plants spanning Canada, the USA and the UK. The specification and value of our systems speaks volumes, so whether "January Sale Offers" you may be considering, when you take a closer look you'll find they don't hold a candle to Maple.

Maple deliver a carefully chosen PI64+ Processor based range of three Minerva Multimedia systems and three Matrix Business systems, each with a host of Software suites and quality printer options included in the price.

"No Compromise" - "No Hidden Extras" - "Unparalleled Value" - that's Maple.

We guarantee it.

PACK INCLUDES THE HEWLETT PACKARD DESKJET 400C COLOUR PRINTER FULL VERSION + COREL WORDPERFECT 7.0 & LOTUS SMARTSUITE 9.5 PRE-LOADED AND THE 35 TITLE + CD "MINERVA LIFESTYLE" CD-ROM PRICE

MINERVA 101 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 102 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 103 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 104 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 105 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 106 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 107 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 108 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 109 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 110 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 111 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 112 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 113 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 114 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 115 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 116 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 117 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

80w (approx) AIVIA Stereo Speakers

14.4 Fast BABT Approved Internal Fax Modem

MINERVA 118 £1,299 inc. VAT £1,167.83 inc. VAT

AS MINERVA Model 101 but with:

2.1GB EDO RAM + 1.2Gb Hard Disk Drive

**MUSIC**

Fifty years after his debut the guitarist Julian Bream celebrates at the Queen Elizabeth Hall  
CONCERT: Thursday  
REVIEW: Saturday



**POP**  
Christy Moore brings his mixture of Celtic melancholy and lyrical beauty to the Point, Dublin  
GIG: Thursday  
REVIEW: Saturday



**FILM**  
Singer on screen: Whitney Houston plays a central role in *The Preacher's Wife*  
OPENS: Friday  
REVIEW: Thursday



**BOOKS**  
Michael Dobbs is back, but Francis Urquhart isn't the latest Westminster thriller is *Goodfellow MP*  
IN THE SHOPS: Now  
REVIEW: Saturday

**ARTS**  
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY IN SECTION 2

THEATRE: A new look for a small but important London venue; plus a moving real-life tale of Hollywood

# Back in business, slow start

The Bush men and Bush women are back in their attic after six months' absence, and the Bush theatre now has its own entrance and its own tiny foyer. That is just as well, for it saves you entering via a pub which has changed its name to the Frinkin and Firkin.

The new owners have rebuilt that nice old, tacky old bar and added what someone on the payroll, maybe a failed alternative comedian distantly related to the Marquis de Sade, presumably regards as

## All Of You Mine

Bush

improvements. You drink your kvass Ale near signs pointing to the Frinkin Loo or the Frinkin Powder, or sip your Shakes Beer beneath a slogan reading "Shakespeare Took the Idea for Hamlet from Bacon" and all to ear-splitting music from inside the walls.

The changes in the theatre itself are less noticeable. The lighting and sound are controlled from a smart new booth; and the seats have been slightly deepened. The chair in front of me still managed to dig its elbows into my shins and leave surprisingly little room for my feet; but that was oddly refreshing after the garish adownstairs. The good news is that the Bush is back in creative business under its recently appointed director, Mike Spinkwell.

He is an able fellow, and will need to be since his predecessor, Dominic Dromgoole, relocated the Bush to the very centre of the theatrical map. Only the Theatre Upstairs can rival its record for discovering lively, abrasive new writers. And now, never could Brabant signal more attention to keep him with that renaissance than by reopening the theatre with a play by Richard Cameron.



Doing the author proud: David Hounslow and Anne Carroll in Richard Cameron's new play for the reopened Bush, *All Of You Mine*

of *Pond Life* and *The Mortal Ash* and one of Dromgoole's prime finds?

That said, I must admit to being mildly disappointed by *All Of You Mine*. Some sharp characterisation does not quite compensate for a plot that lacks the tension it seems implicitly to be claiming for itself. Seeing the play is like watching a man painstakingly stretch a piece of elastic so far that you are wishing it would split apart before the revelatory ping comes.

What happened? In Cameron's

Yorkshire pit village during the miners' strike? Why has one of the Cade daughters, Verna, been alienated from the family for the 12 years since then? Slowly, too slowly, Cameron slips us his secrets. There was an "accident" down below. Five volunteers were killed, Verna's husband among them. Maybe they were the victims of hardliners in the union. Maybe the hankie-panky was even hankier and punkier than it seems. Maybe the Cade clan was implicated.

You cannot expect solid York-

shire folk to start replacing their grumbles of "no respect for now and nobody" with pastiche Lorca or cod Shakespeare. But if Cameron's dialogue had more spring in its boots, and the director, Simon Usher, had cut some of the more plodding bits, I would have been more excited by the revelations and stirred by the denouement. But at least we get a look at a mining village metaphorically as well as literally trying to grow flowers on the stony. At least David Hounslow, Melanie Kilburn and others

do their author proud. Two are particularly impressive: Lee Oakes as a spoilt, scowling adolescent on the brink of his first love and Anne Carroll as the Cade matriarch, a feisty, plain-speaking old bat with softer feelings than she cares to show. Yet even they could not give the play enough energy for lift-off. Yes, the Bush is back in business but, no, it is not yet creatively airborne again.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

# I dub thee forever the unsung queen

## Showstopper Arts Theatre

The story of Maria Nixon is as curious as it is strangely moving. Not only did she give Audrey Hepburn and Deborah Kerr their on-screen singing voices in *My Fair Lady* and *The King and I*, but she pulled off an astonishing double when, she dubbed both Natalie Wood and Rita Moreno for the film version of *West Side Story*.

According to Dan Rebellato's quirky one-woman play, the dubbing queen of the Sixties could barely muster a thank you, let alone a film credit from the stars whose voices she salvaged. She craved recognition, yet she was paid to be invisible. Her one brief

flicker of screen life as a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* was remarkable only for its negligible nature. If Rebellato tells the story right, Nixon's tragedy is that she lived perpetually in the shadow of fame without being acknowledged by the stars she dubbed or the audiences.

In view of all this obscurity and Rebellato's somewhat cautious decision to rename Nixon as Carole James, one half expects to be confronted by a one-eyed leper with no legs. Not so. As wittily played by Jackie Clune, Carole is pretty, flirtatious and an inveterate studio gossip. The play starts dismally enough, until we gradually become aware of Carole's fixation with Audrey Hepburn, a

star she is so intimately but distantly entwined with on film. You notice that she dresses like Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. That she quotes her most famous lines. That there is, in fact, a grand canyon between Carole's inflated perception of herself and Hepburn's fame, mesmerisingly captured by Jackie Clune.

What doesn't work is the play's reliance on the one-sided conversation. The more Rebellato uses invisible interlocutors such as Carole's gay agent to prod the story along, the more contrived and awkward the play becomes. Nevertheless Clune generates some wonderful comic desperation.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

The best is last. Dressed as Sister Sophia, and reduced to showing tourists around the film set of *The Sound of Music*, Carole cuts a tragicomic figure. "I hear great things about [Christopher Plummer] in the catering truck," she bears knowingly. But it's her defence of Hepburn against the upstart Julie Andrews that betrays the state of her sanity. When the truth is finally revealed about the one time she did meet Hepburn, it's enough to make you grateful you were born talent-free. Hollywood tales of truth don't come much quicker than this.

MARTIN GARRICK

In the story of Maria Nixon as it was told, she was a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* who gave Audrey Hepburn and Deborah Kerr their on-screen singing voices in *My Fair Lady* and *The King and I*, but she pulled off an astonishing double when, she dubbed both Natalie Wood and Rita Moreno for the film version of *West Side Story*.

According to Dan Rebellato's quirky one-woman play, the dubbing queen of the Sixties could barely muster a thank you, let alone a film credit from the stars whose voices she salvaged. She craved recognition, yet she was paid to be invisible. Her one brief

flicker of screen life as a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* was remarkable only for its negligible nature. If Rebellato tells the story right, Nixon's tragedy is that she lived perpetually in the shadow of fame without being acknowledged by the stars she dubbed or the audiences.

In view of all this obscurity and Rebellato's somewhat cautious decision to rename Nixon as Carole James, one half expects to be confronted by a one-eyed leper with no legs. Not so. As wittily played by Jackie Clune, Carole is pretty, flirtatious and an inveterate studio gossip. The play starts dismally enough, until we gradually become aware of Carole's fixation with Audrey Hepburn, a

star she is so intimately but distantly entwined with on film. You notice that she dresses like Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. That she quotes her most famous lines. That there is, in fact, a grand canyon between Carole's inflated perception of herself and Hepburn's fame, mesmerisingly captured by Jackie Clune.

What doesn't work is the play's reliance on the one-sided conversation. The more Rebellato uses invisible interlocutors such as Carole's gay agent to prod the story along, the more contrived and awkward the play becomes. Nevertheless Clune generates some wonderful comic desperation.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

The best is last. Dressed as Sister Sophia, and reduced to showing tourists around the film set of *The Sound of Music*, Carole cuts a tragicomic figure. "I hear great things about [Christopher Plummer] in the catering truck," she bears knowingly. But it's her defence of Hepburn against the upstart Julie Andrews that betrays the state of her sanity. When the truth is finally revealed about the one time she did meet Hepburn, it's enough to make you grateful you were born talent-free. Hollywood tales of truth don't come much quicker than this.

MARTIN GARRICK

In the story of Maria Nixon as it was told, she was a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* who gave Audrey Hepburn and Deborah Kerr their on-screen singing voices in *My Fair Lady* and *The King and I*, but she pulled off an astonishing double when, she dubbed both Natalie Wood and Rita Moreno for the film version of *West Side Story*.

According to Dan Rebellato's quirky one-woman play, the dubbing queen of the Sixties could barely muster a thank you, let alone a film credit from the stars whose voices she salvaged. She craved recognition, yet she was paid to be invisible. Her one brief

flicker of screen life as a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* was remarkable only for its negligible nature. If Rebellato tells the story right, Nixon's tragedy is that she lived perpetually in the shadow of fame without being acknowledged by the stars she dubbed or the audiences.

In view of all this obscurity and Rebellato's somewhat cautious decision to rename Nixon as Carole James, one half expects to be confronted by a one-eyed leper with no legs. Not so. As wittily played by Jackie Clune, Carole is pretty, flirtatious and an inveterate studio gossip. The play starts dismally enough, until we gradually become aware of Carole's fixation with Audrey Hepburn, a

star she is so intimately but distantly entwined with on film. You notice that she dresses like Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. That she quotes her most famous lines. That there is, in fact, a grand canyon between Carole's inflated perception of herself and Hepburn's fame, mesmerisingly captured by Jackie Clune.

What doesn't work is the play's reliance on the one-sided conversation. The more Rebellato uses invisible interlocutors such as Carole's gay agent to prod the story along, the more contrived and awkward the play becomes. Nevertheless Clune generates some wonderful comic desperation.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

The best is last. Dressed as Sister Sophia, and reduced to showing tourists around the film set of *The Sound of Music*, Carole cuts a tragicomic figure. "I hear great things about [Christopher Plummer] in the catering truck," she bears knowingly. But it's her defence of Hepburn against the upstart Julie Andrews that betrays the state of her sanity. When the truth is finally revealed about the one time she did meet Hepburn, it's enough to make you grateful you were born talent-free. Hollywood tales of truth don't come much quicker than this.

MARTIN GARRICK

In the story of Maria Nixon as it was told, she was a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* who gave Audrey Hepburn and Deborah Kerr their on-screen singing voices in *My Fair Lady* and *The King and I*, but she pulled off an astonishing double when, she dubbed both Natalie Wood and Rita Moreno for the film version of *West Side Story*.

According to Dan Rebellato's quirky one-woman play, the dubbing queen of the Sixties could barely muster a thank you, let alone a film credit from the stars whose voices she salvaged. She craved recognition, yet she was paid to be invisible. Her one brief

flicker of screen life as a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* was remarkable only for its negligible nature. If Rebellato tells the story right, Nixon's tragedy is that she lived perpetually in the shadow of fame without being acknowledged by the stars she dubbed or the audiences.

In view of all this obscurity and Rebellato's somewhat cautious decision to rename Nixon as Carole James, one half expects to be confronted by a one-eyed leper with no legs. Not so. As wittily played by Jackie Clune, Carole is pretty, flirtatious and an inveterate studio gossip. The play starts dismally enough, until we gradually become aware of Carole's fixation with Audrey Hepburn, a

star she is so intimately but distantly entwined with on film. You notice that she dresses like Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. That she quotes her most famous lines. That there is, in fact, a grand canyon between Carole's inflated perception of herself and Hepburn's fame, mesmerisingly captured by Jackie Clune.

What doesn't work is the play's reliance on the one-sided conversation. The more Rebellato uses invisible interlocutors such as Carole's gay agent to prod the story along, the more contrived and awkward the play becomes. Nevertheless Clune generates some wonderful comic desperation.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

The best is last. Dressed as Sister Sophia, and reduced to showing tourists around the film set of *The Sound of Music*, Carole cuts a tragicomic figure. "I hear great things about [Christopher Plummer] in the catering truck," she bears knowingly. But it's her defence of Hepburn against the upstart Julie Andrews that betrays the state of her sanity. When the truth is finally revealed about the one time she did meet Hepburn, it's enough to make you grateful you were born talent-free. Hollywood tales of truth don't come much quicker than this.

MARTIN GARRICK

In the story of Maria Nixon as it was told, she was a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* who gave Audrey Hepburn and Deborah Kerr their on-screen singing voices in *My Fair Lady* and *The King and I*, but she pulled off an astonishing double when, she dubbed both Natalie Wood and Rita Moreno for the film version of *West Side Story*.

According to Dan Rebellato's quirky one-woman play, the dubbing queen of the Sixties could barely muster a thank you, let alone a film credit from the stars whose voices she salvaged. She craved recognition, yet she was paid to be invisible. Her one brief

flicker of screen life as a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* was remarkable only for its negligible nature. If Rebellato tells the story right, Nixon's tragedy is that she lived perpetually in the shadow of fame without being acknowledged by the stars she dubbed or the audiences.

In view of all this obscurity and Rebellato's somewhat cautious decision to rename Nixon as Carole James, one half expects to be confronted by a one-eyed leper with no legs. Not so. As wittily played by Jackie Clune, Carole is pretty, flirtatious and an inveterate studio gossip. The play starts dismally enough, until we gradually become aware of Carole's fixation with Audrey Hepburn, a

star she is so intimately but distantly entwined with on film. You notice that she dresses like Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. That she quotes her most famous lines. That there is, in fact, a grand canyon between Carole's inflated perception of herself and Hepburn's fame, mesmerisingly captured by Jackie Clune.

What doesn't work is the play's reliance on the one-sided conversation. The more Rebellato uses invisible interlocutors such as Carole's gay agent to prod the story along, the more contrived and awkward the play becomes. Nevertheless Clune generates some wonderful comic desperation.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

The best is last. Dressed as Sister Sophia, and reduced to showing tourists around the film set of *The Sound of Music*, Carole cuts a tragicomic figure. "I hear great things about [Christopher Plummer] in the catering truck," she bears knowingly. But it's her defence of Hepburn against the upstart Julie Andrews that betrays the state of her sanity. When the truth is finally revealed about the one time she did meet Hepburn, it's enough to make you grateful you were born talent-free. Hollywood tales of truth don't come much quicker than this.

MARTIN GARRICK

In the story of Maria Nixon as it was told, she was a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* who gave Audrey Hepburn and Deborah Kerr their on-screen singing voices in *My Fair Lady* and *The King and I*, but she pulled off an astonishing double when, she dubbed both Natalie Wood and Rita Moreno for the film version of *West Side Story*.

According to Dan Rebellato's quirky one-woman play, the dubbing queen of the Sixties could barely muster a thank you, let alone a film credit from the stars whose voices she salvaged. She craved recognition, yet she was paid to be invisible. Her one brief

flicker of screen life as a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* was remarkable only for its negligible nature. If Rebellato tells the story right, Nixon's tragedy is that she lived perpetually in the shadow of fame without being acknowledged by the stars she dubbed or the audiences.

In view of all this obscurity and Rebellato's somewhat cautious decision to rename Nixon as Carole James, one half expects to be confronted by a one-eyed leper with no legs. Not so. As wittily played by Jackie Clune, Carole is pretty, flirtatious and an inveterate studio gossip. The play starts dismally enough, until we gradually become aware of Carole's fixation with Audrey Hepburn, a

star she is so intimately but distantly entwined with on film. You notice that she dresses like Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. That she quotes her most famous lines. That there is, in fact, a grand canyon between Carole's inflated perception of herself and Hepburn's fame, mesmerisingly captured by Jackie Clune.

What doesn't work is the play's reliance on the one-sided conversation. The more Rebellato uses invisible interlocutors such as Carole's gay agent to prod the story along, the more contrived and awkward the play becomes. Nevertheless Clune generates some wonderful comic desperation.

JAMES CHRISTOPHER

The best is last. Dressed as Sister Sophia, and reduced to showing tourists around the film set of *The Sound of Music*, Carole cuts a tragicomic figure. "I hear great things about [Christopher Plummer] in the catering truck," she bears knowingly. But it's her defence of Hepburn against the upstart Julie Andrews that betrays the state of her sanity. When the truth is finally revealed about the one time she did meet Hepburn, it's enough to make you grateful you were born talent-free. Hollywood tales of truth don't come much quicker than this.

MARTIN GARRICK

In the story of Maria Nixon as it was told, she was a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* who gave Audrey Hepburn and Deborah Kerr their on-screen singing voices in *My Fair Lady* and *The King and I*, but she pulled off an astonishing double when, she dubbed both Natalie Wood and Rita Moreno for the film version of *West Side Story*.

According to Dan Rebellato's quirky one-woman play, the dubbing queen of the Sixties could barely muster a thank you, let alone a film credit from the stars whose voices she salvaged. She craved recognition, yet she was paid to be invisible. Her one brief

flicker of screen life as a singing nun in *The Sound of Music* was remarkable only for its negligible nature. If Rebellato tells the story right, Nixon's tragedy is that she lived perpetually in the shadow of fame without being acknowledged by the stars she dubbed or the audiences.

In view of all this obscurity and Rebellato's somewhat cautious decision to rename Nixon as Carole James, one half expects to be confronted by a one-eyed leper with no legs. Not so. As wittily played by Jackie Clune, Carole is pretty, flirtatious and an inveterate studio gossip. The play starts dismally enough, until we gradually become aware of Carole's fixation with Audrey Hepburn, a

star she is so intimately but distantly entwined with on film. You notice that she dresses like Hepburn in *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. That she quotes her most famous lines. That there is, in fact, a grand canyon between Carole's inflated perception of herself and Hepburn's fame, mesmerisingly captured by Jackie Clune.

Matthew Parris



**The public this, the public that...  
But a columnist soon finds that people are anything but homogeneous**

Newspaper columns are a long-distance relay, the runner before he started and remains when he goes, but around his allotted laps he trots or powers his way, sometimes flagging, sometimes finding new energy.

By this columnist, on this page, the baton was taken up nearly nine years ago. Not for me, then, the 100-yard sprint or the special commentary from the celebrity outside-contributor. Instead a certain gentle stammering has been required: but for a journey which is not grueling, but rather a kind of odyssey.

As any distance runner knows, in our event there is time to observe the observers. The sprinter is the spectacle; the crowd looks in — at him. But the marathon one looks out. He can scrutinise the faces as he passes — even exchange a little banter with his audience. For me the most surprising pleasure of writing this column has been to make the acquaintance of tens of thousands of readers, who have written to contribute thoughts, criticism, encouragement — and even, just occasionally, abuse.

The pleasure was unexpected. I receive between 20 and 100 letters a week. To my dear secretary Eileen Wright has fallen the task of typing and sending out my replies, and for me there has usually been time to do little more than read each letter and thank its sender. I thought that with the years, a columnist would grow cynical about this task. Instead, my interest in my readers, and my respect for them, has grown.

They are such good, nice people. The news media subject us to a daily bombardment of horrible stories about the misdeeds of our countrymen: it can lead us to despair of fellow Britons. If you want an antidote, read the daily postbag from his readers of a *Times* columnist. You will find that far from being alone in a nation of thugs, yobs and cheats, you are surrounded out there in the dark by millions of intelligent, kindly, lively souls astonishingly various in their habits and opinions but united by a civilising tolerance and tremendous goodwill.

If it was ever the case that the *Times* reader was a predictable type — rich, snuffy, "Establishment" and almost certainly male — then my postbag tells me that it is emphatically not the case now. Every human type is there. Some are rich, most strike me as neither rich nor poor, and a notable group are of above average education and below average income: young people and old (especially elderly ladies), who in material terms have quite a struggle and for whom an intelligent newspaper represents a vantage point from which to survey the world of ideas, research and the arts. Perhaps my correspondents are such good, nice people. The news media subject us to a daily bombardment of horrible stories about the misdeeds of our countrymen: it can lead us to despair of fellow Britons. If you want an antidote, read the daily postbag from his readers of a *Times* columnist. You will find that far from being alone in a nation of thugs, yobs and cheats, you are surrounded out there in the dark by millions of intelligent, kindly, lively souls astonishingly various in their habits and opinions but united by a civilising tolerance and tremendous goodwill.

It is important to the very idea of democracy that such a thing as public opinion exists. The ghastly possibility that among a population there may be diverse and contradictory opinions and no "democratic" way of satisfying them all is brushed uneasily aside. The unease explains fevered attempts throughout this century to find ways — by "proportional representation" or "consultation" for instance — to pretend to ourselves that irreconcilable desires can be blended into unified decisions. They cannot. Give me the cacophony, I say. Give me the *Times* readers, a band who have in common only the quality that each one is original, and to whom, as I move to another space and a different day, I offer an affectionate thank you.

Matthew Parris's new column begins on Friday.

## Overseas aid

NEW YORKERS are cranking up their efforts on behalf of Tony Blair and the Labour Party. Following John Prescott's visit to town in September, when he addressed the 20th Congress of the Socialist International in Restaurant 44 at the Royalton Hotel, key Labour supporters have sent out a letter arranging more meetings with shadow ministers and asking for cash.

Chief among New York's left-eatarians are Harold Evans, chairman of the publishers Random House and a former editor of this newspaper, Brian McNally, a modish restaurateur, and Howard Stringer, a television executive.

"Since that breakfast in September," reads the letter, "the Government's majority in the House of Commons has vanished, and the election can be no more than three or four months away... We are planning a function on Wall Street with shadow ministers as speakers." A Los Angeles event is also planned.

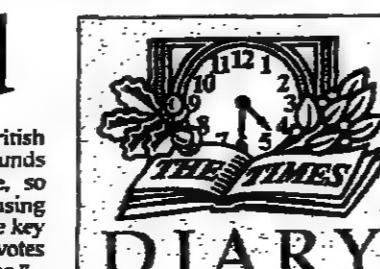
The letter ends with a plea for funds — from British citizens only of course, in the light of Tony Blair's abhorrence of foreign funding. "The Conservative Party is

very richly funded. In British elections, a few thousand pounds can make all the difference, so Labour's work in the US is focusing on aid from expatriates for the key seats... where a few hundred votes can critically affect the outcome."

• Freda, a rare breed Gloucester Old Spot pig, is the newest addition to Highgrove, the Prince of Wales's Gloucestershire estate. She is the gift of a local farmer, Lewis Barnfield, who was chosen by the Gloucester Old Spot Society to find a companion for the Prince's Old Spot boar. Explaining his choice, Barnfield said "she has a few more spots than the others."

IN all the fuss surrounding the siting of Wafic Said's Oxford business school, one powerful individual has kept quiet. Dr Colin Lucas, the Master of Balliol, lives at the King's Mount, a large house bang next to the Mansfield Road sports ground where Said wanted his school to be built.

Lucas, who is due to take over as the university's Vice-Chancellor in



October, will be delighted that the original plan has been squashed on two counts. Not only will the relocation of the school quell what promised to be some vicious, port-fuelled common-room fights, but it will also guarantee the peace around his digs.

"Colin has said he doesn't mind the school being built there — he's a diplomatic sort of chap," said an Oxford colleague of Lucas yesterday. "but I'm sure he'll be secretly relieved it's going somewhere else."

### Quiet life

IN the fuss surrounding the siting of Wafic Said's Oxford business school, one powerful individual has kept quiet. Dr Colin Lucas, the Master of Balliol, lives at the King's Mount, a large house bang next to the Mansfield Road sports ground where Said wanted his school to be built.

Lucas, who is due to take over as the university's Vice-Chancellor in

Public services cannot be restored without more money. Tax rises are impossible, so boost the private sector

## Closing the health and education gaps

In 1964, I took part in the first modern election-night broadcast on ITN. Alastair Burnet was in the chair, and an early computer was cranking out forecasts of the overall outcome as the first constituency results came in. The computer started by forecasting a Conservative majority of just under 20. I remember saying flatly, and correctly, that the computer had got it wrong, and that Labour had won the election. I turned out to be right, at least on that occasion.

The reason I feel so confident was that the early 1960s had already seen a cultural revolution, of which *The Sunday Times*, on which I was then working, was an important agent. It was the period of the first colour magazine, edited by Mark Boxer; most of the rising journalists on *The Sunday Times*, including the "insight" team and Harold Evans, were in their early 30s; they represented part of a cultural revolution of youth which turned out to be worldwide. I was myself 31 when I went to *The Sunday Times* in 1960. I was a balancing rather than reinforcing factor in the cult of youth on the paper, sometimes going with and sometimes standing against the fashionable tide, but I was there, and I knew that this cultural revolution was happening. That was why I was so certain that Harold Wilson had won the election. He was the candidate of the new and the young.

It seems that something of the same sort is happening again in British politics. Even at my later age, having seen so many political hopes for Britain frustrated, Tony Blair's campaign has some appeal. I think that the ultimate future of the country will be found through the Conservative Party, just as it was in the 1960s. But I recognise that my 30-year-old self would have been disillusioned by the present exhaustion of Conservative policy, and stimulated by the energy and seriousness with which Tony

Blair puts his case. Hope is a potent weapon in politics, with a strong appeal to the young. In 1964, Wilson offered hope, while Alec Douglas-Home only offered a sceptical experience. It is much the same now with Tony Blair and John Major.

Yet I cannot convince myself that Labour's central equation can be made to balance. On yesterday's *Breakfast With Frost*, Tony Blair rightly emphasised the need to spend more money on education; there is also a need to spend more money on health. The Labour Party is correct in asserting that these two central social services are inadequately funded, and that the Conservatives have failed to make the improvements that are needed.

In the case of the health service, a cold spell lasting for no more than two weeks has overwhelmed the reserve capacity of the hospital system. The Bristol Royal Infirmary has had to turn the gravely ill out of their beds to accommodate the even more seriously ill. In Bristol, you cannot get into a hospice unless your doctor will sign a chit guaranteeing you will be dead within two weeks. Several hundred people in London have found themselves waiting on stretchers in hospital corridors, some of them patients with terminal diseases. This is a disgrace, and a disgrace with a clearly identifiable cause. For decades, the number of hospital beds per thousand in Britain has been falling, not only absolutely but relative to

other European countries. We now have the lowest hospital bed provision in Western Europe, a third less than France or Germany, no more than Spain. This fall has continued at speed under the Major administration with the closure of hospitals and the threatened closure of more. It is ultimately an economic issue. Britain spends a lower proportion of its national income on health than France or Germany. By comparative European figures, health provision needs another 1 per cent of gross domestic product to be restored to viability. That is £6.5 billion.

This is where the Labour equation comes unstuck. There is a worldwide public reluctance to pay higher taxes. Changes in employment patterns are making direct taxes progressively harder to collect. There are other competing claims on public funds. On the Continent, tax expenditure on health is no higher than it is here, but private expenditure, through insurance schemes or otherwise, is much higher. If Britain wants to bring health provision up to the European standard, it is the private

sector that needs to be expanded. State education is also underfunded at every level: universities have been expanded far beyond the funds which were made available. As a result, teachers are underpaid and many of the best of them have left the profession. It is calculated that secondary teachers in Britain are paid little more than half what those in France receive. The greatest contrast is between the private and public sector. Universities have to adjust their admission standards to allow for the advantage of education in the private sector; the gap between private and public is much wider than it was 50 years ago. The Labour Party plans to widen the gap between private and public opportunities further by abolishing the Assisted Places Scheme, a scandalous anti-education decision.

New Labour has overthrown many of the statist obsessions of old Labour, but not this one. New Labour is just as determined to prefer the public to the private sector in the social services as old Labour was to prefer and enlarge the public sector in industry. In the social services, Clause Four remains with all its ugly force. No matter that Labour now recognises that taxes cannot be raised, and that tax-funded services will inevitably therefore be underfunded. Labour would still rather have cancer patients dying on trolleys in overcrowded NHS hospitals than properly cared for under insurance schemes in private hospitals.

William Rees-Mogg

grasses domestic product to be restored to viability. That is £6.5 billion.

This is where the Labour equation comes unstuck. There is a worldwide public reluctance to pay higher taxes. Changes in employment patterns are making direct taxes progressively harder to collect. There are other competing claims on public funds. On the Continent, tax expenditure on health is no higher than it is here, but private expenditure, through insurance schemes or otherwise, is much higher. If Britain wants to bring health provision up to the European standard, it is the private

over the new Clause Four and the pre-manifesto statement last autumn. He would be prepared to do so again in government. The party's National Executive Committee will shortly consider proposals aimed at avoiding the hydra situation that arose so often in the 1970s; when the party itself (both the annual conference and the NEC) became a focus of public opposition to the Labour Government, to the frequent anger of James Callaghan. The suggestion now is that most ministers would not serve on the NEC, which would become more of an organisational committee for the party, without a major policymaking role.

More important than such institutional changes would be the attitude of Labour MPs — not so much the depleted and divided forces of the Left as the many in the centre. Many MPs, and candidates in winnable seats, are now going along with Blairism less out of conviction than because they do not want to rock the boat before a victory. How far are they fair-weather allies? Mr Blair places much faith, possibly too much, in the attitudes of the likely new intake and the new party members, half of whom have joined since he became leader. Other Blairites are more worried about internal party tensions from the Shadow Cabinet downwards. Paradoxically, a key measure of the success of Mr Blair's attempt to create a "new" party and government may be whether some on the Left split off, possibly to be replaced by some of the sturdier Liberal Democrats and even some pro-European Tories.

As Mr Blair said last week, his aim is to establish a record on education, reform of the welfare state, decentralisation and relations with business and Europe that earns "the chance to carry forward our programme in a further term of office. Five years is too short a time to complete the process of reform." But the ability of a Blair government to win two terms and avoid "tears" will depend crucially on continuing to change the character of the Labour Party — in effect by creating a new party.

## Labour without tears

Peter Riddell  
on Tony Blair's efforts to avoid the old traps in government



a constitutional one, would be the first to be introduced. This is a largely empty gesture, since several Bills are likely to be pushed forward together, but it symbolises his priorities.

Moreover, the referendums in Scotland and Wales on the principle of devolution are intended to establish public support before the detailed Bills are introduced — in the hope of weakening opposition, so the measures do not clog up Parliament, as happened in the late 1970s. However, Mr Blair knows that more needs to be said about the West Lothian question concerning the role and powers of Scottish MPs at Westminster. Labour's talks with the Liberal Democrats are largely about how these and other proposals — about, for example, Lords reform — can be enacted smoothly. Mr Blair yesterday promised that an education Bill, not

face much higher fiscal and monetary constraints than its predecessors. The real question is not, as the Tories allege, whether Labour has made new spending promises amounting to £30 billion (a gross exaggeration), but how it can contain the rising cost of existing programmes and so avoid a rise in taxes on ordinary people. The Tories have only been able to square this circle by cuts in other budgets and welfare entitlements, which Labour has opposed.

A Blair government would probably have to cut some popular programmes and confront the trade unions and local government. That is why changing the structure of the Labour Party is so important. Mr Blair has already gone over the heads of party activists, union leaders and MPs to win the overwhelming support of individual party members

"So he won't be at the launch of your new campaign?"

"He's raring to go."

### Snooze news

IT IS reassuring that the Tories are scheduling human amounts of sleep for the Prime Minister during the general election campaign. Sadly, it is unlikely we will ever get to see the PM's flop-room, after some snobbish revelations in the press to Norma Major's confession that the couple have a Teamzade beside their bed.

Nevertheless, some facts on Major's sleeping habits: when the strains of London become too much, he likes to retreat under the covers to a friend who once stumbled into the PM's bedroom in Downing Street by accident. John Major is the first Prime Minister in history to take advantage of a duvet.

### Fluent

ALL the usual steel magnolia stuff written about ballerinas should be multiplied by ten in the case of Darcie Bussell, heroine of the Roy-



Darcie Bussell: heroine

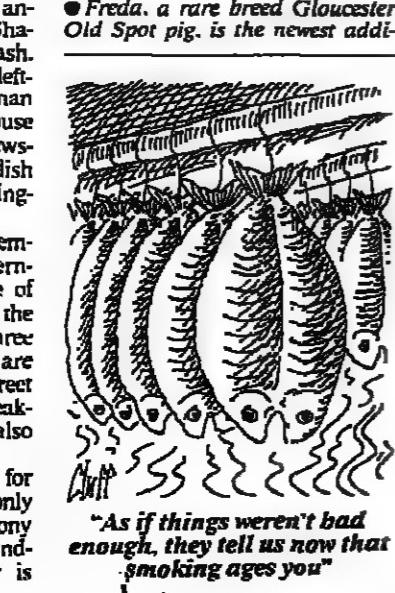
al Ballet. On Saturday, Miss Bussell, who I regret to say is soon to marry, danced her way through Act One of Swan Lake, including the notoriously gruelling "Rose Adagio", with scarcely a smile. This despite being one of the many currently feeling the flu.

At the interval it was announced that having done the tricky bit, she had taken to her bed and would not be returning to the stage. Flowers may be sent to Covent Garden.

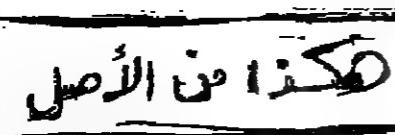
P.H.S



Goldsmith: the oldest swinger takes life easy as others panic



"As if things weren't bad enough, they tell us now that smoking ages you"





## NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER

**Flexibility, not insecurity, should govern the labour market**

The middle classes do not have jobs; they have careers. The expectation of a smooth upward progression at work is surely one of the defining stamps of middle-class life. Yet, as our series starting today shows, the conventional linear career is becoming as dated as a bowler hat. And what many middle-aged managers and professionals found out the hard way during the last recession, their children and grandchildren are accepting as a fact of life.

Not only can the young expect to change jobs every few years: a combination of global competition and fast-moving technology may well compel them to make three or four career changes too, as well as cope with the odd spell out of the labour market. Their lives will be far less secure than those of their parents, cushioned as they used to be by committed employers and a cradle-to-grave welfare state. But they will have more fun. And above all they will have the chance to design their own careers.

Resourcefulness, resilience, adaptability and salesmanship will be the ingredients for success in the new world of work. People will have to package themselves for the job market, to run their careers almost like businesses. They will have to redefine success and failure so that a spell of unemployment is seen as an opportunity to regroup rather than a catastrophe. And they will have to concentrate on building skills that make them employable, rather than simply finding jobs.

For some, this shift could be as psychologically destabilising as the Industrial Revolution. Then people had to get used to the idea of working full-time for others, instead of sporadically and mainly for themselves. There were riots, arson and murders as those who felt enslaved by the new world of the wage tried to fight back.

Today's model may be as liberating as the old was enslaving; but for many freedom itself is something to fear. To adapt to the

modern career requires a reassessment: people will have to define themselves not by what they do, but by what they do well. Skills will determine success in life, and they may be adapted to different jobs at different times. A willingness to go back to school, literally and figuratively, will be necessary. Lifetime learning will be the backbone of the new career.

Modern working life, though, will be more fun. The days of a young graduate spending many boring years in the expectation that promotion would eventually make the sacrifice worthwhile are over. Companies are now offering their best graduates responsibility much earlier. That is because the implicit contract between employer and employee is changing. Corporate loyalty for young people is being replaced by the job as a deal: I will offer you my services in return for you making me more employable elsewhere. This is a rational response. They know they must manage their own careers, since they cannot rely on their employer doing it for them.

Some people will be prepared to sacrifice status for security. At Rover, for instance, job security for all is now guaranteed, but in return employees have to be prepared to do absolutely any job, wielding a spanner if necessary. And only last week, Blue Circle signed a job security deal with the GMB general union.

But more employees are likely to opt for the insecure but entrepreneurial model. This could be profoundly democratising. Working-class people have long had to be philosophical about the vicissitudes of life, employed as many of them have been in declining or cyclical industries. That the middle classes too are learning to pick themselves up and dust themselves down several times in a working life may do more to create common understanding than anything a politician spouting about a classless society will ever manage to achieve.

## ATHENS AND ANKARA

**The Eastern Question has returned, dangerous and complex**

Turkey's threats to carry out a pre-emptive military strike on any air defence system installed on Cyprus shows how dangerously the situation in the Eastern Mediterranean has deteriorated. Once a dependable Nato ally, Turkey appears now to be drifting out of control. Tempters are rising in Cyprus, together with irresponsible brinkmanship. Athens and Ankara, relations at an all-time low, are accusing each other of preparing for war. And the Pentagon admits that its relationship with Turkey is breaking down.

Blame for the latest crisis lies unambiguously with the Cyprus Government. Its decision to buy an air defence system from Russia can only complicate attempts to broker a solution between the island's Greek and Turkish communities. Indeed, raising the temperature appears to have been the main reason for the deal, with the Cyprus Government hoping to provoke Turkey into the kind of bellicose response that will rally the rest of Europe behind Nicosia.

Such calculations are particularly irresponsible at present. For the Turkish Government of Necmettin Erbakan, its Islamist Prime Minister, is in no mood to heed to any pressure from its Western partners. Mr Erbakan veers from one extreme to another, torn between the demands of his radical Islamic ideology and the constraints of pragmatism. Tansu Ciller, the Foreign Minister, is clinging to almost any lifeline that will prevent a wave of corruption charges breaking over her. A series of scandals has linked her True Path Party with underworld gangs. And the Turkish Army, always a formidable force, is waiting, frustrated in the wings, unable to win the

war against Kurdish terrorism or to break the political deadlock.

Equally important, however, is the breakdown in relations with Europe and America. Since the election of Mr Erbakan, Washington has had little dialogue with a man who appears, by his visits to Iran and Libya, intent on snubbing the Americans. And the traditional lines of communication with the army have been blocked by disagreement on two vital issues: Iraq and arms supplies. The army is resentful of the American presence in Iraq, dislikes the air patrols operating from the Incirlik base, and believes the protection of Iraqi Kurds has given safe haven to PKK terrorists trying to overthrow the Turkish state.

Turkish relations with Europe are little better. The European Union, having agreed to a customs union with Turkey, refuses still, under pressure from Greece, to release to Ankara Mediterranean funds amounting to some \$100 million at a time when Turkey is now suffering a \$10 billion trade deficit with the EU because of the customs union. The European Parliament has also raised the Kurdish issue and human rights to prevent any closer political dialogue.

Turkey occupies a vital geostrategic position. Its outreach into the Middle East, Russia and Central Asia is considerable; its regional military and economic strength is impressive. Yet it is falling into a political morass and spiritual malaise of its own making. Neither its European nor American partners have formulated a coherent strategy to rekindle their links with Ankara. The Eastern Question has returned in all its historical complexity and danger.

## GOING UNDERGROUND

**Privatising the Tube would show a sense of Tory direction**

Clear blue water can be found underground in London — not in the River Fleet, but on the Tube. Conservative plans to privatise the London Underground are welcome evidence of a dash of radicalism from a party that seemed content to enter the election on a safety-first platform. Privatising the Tube may not have the instant attractions for voters of the Treasury, of previous sell-offs. Persistent underinvestment in the Underground means that a significant capital outlay will be required under any new owner. Both taxpayers and travellers may bear part of that burden, but the most effective guarantee that new money will be effectively used relies on the application of rigorous market discipline.

Rail privatisation, damned before the first detail had been worked out as "the poll tax on wheels", has proved modest but real success. A more flexible fare structure and greater room for management innovation have improved the service for many passengers. The most obvious improvements have been registered on flagship routes such as the East Coast main line where sharper selling has stung airline rivals into a price war, with the traveller the gainer.

Opponents of Tube privatisation have attempted to create barriers by rehearsing variations on the same themes that have haunted all sell-offs. Critics exaggerate the resistance of consumers to change, the threat to peripheral services and the difficulty of ensuring effective competition. But the privatisation of the Underground should be,

in principle, no more problematic than that of any utility.

It would be foolish to play down the difficulties. London Underground, like the nation's sewerage system, is a triumph of imperial-era engineering undermined by generations of underinvestment. The Tube suffers from creaking architecture, ageing rolling-stock, rigidly unionised staff and a management handcuffed to public sector practices. Any privatisation would probably have to be underwritten by an initial subsidy to keep fares down. Privatisation would, however, release capital buried in unnecessary property holdings and allow a more imaginative deployment of resources.

Managers would also be free to make employment savings. Union intransigence has prevented the most efficient use of staff and the Underground could operate more effectively with far fewer workers than its current complement of 15,000. Norman Lamont, John Redwood and Michael Heseltine have all investigated means of ensuring an effective transfer of the Tube into private hands and Mr Redwood's proposal to give every Londoner the chance to take a stake in the network is a daring development in the successful tradition of franchising those most directly affected by privatisation. If the Government is to deserve re-election it must show it has not run out of steam — privatising the Underground would be evidence of a commitment to its traditional enterprise ideals and proof of continuing vitality.

Ever afterwards? It doesn't look like it from the present state of our green.

Yours faithfully,  
M. EDEN IRVING,  
The Coign, Comb Hill,  
Haltwhistle, Northumberland.  
January 9.

## Change to rules on teachers' pensions

*From Dr Leslie Bather*

Sir, When militant teachers disrupted the education of their own pupils their favourite weapon was the "withdrawal of goodwill".

Now the National Association of Head Teachers proposes to do the same to 20,000 student teachers who might be boycotted by its members in order to bully the Government into abandoning its plan to tighten up on superannuation arrangements which allow teachers to retire without providing full medical evidence of ill-health (report, January 8).

Head teachers should have strong support from the Government over the removal of jaded, lazy or stressed-out teachers, but this particular proposal is objectionable for several reasons:

Heads would be teaching their pupils that bullying and blackmail are acceptable ways to get what you want.

They would be setting a dreadful example to entrants to the profession just at the crucial moment when student teachers are establishing their expectations of professional conduct.

If head teachers let down the student teachers who need their help, we can hardly complain when militant teachers once again want to use their own pupils as pawns in a dispute over pay.

Such behaviour, by head teachers of all people, might well undermine the ideals of some excellent school students who are seriously considering entering the profession.

Yours faithfully,

LESLIE BATHER  
(Headmaster, Bishopshalt School,  
Hillingdon, 1970-90),  
28 Whitehouse Way,  
Iver Heath, Buckinghamshire.  
January 9.

*From the Secretary of the HMC*

Sir, Your report gives some indication of the strength of feeling in the teaching profession at the proposed changes to our pension scheme. It is well understood that more cannot be paid out in pensions than is received in contributions (though until recently contributions exceeded payments). It is the implementation of the proposed sudden change in regulations in the middle of the school year which would be unacceptable.

Perfectly legitimate applications for early retirement from heads and teachers, who have given as much as 35 years dedicated service to the profession but are now worn out, will have to be turned down because employers (particularly in the independent sector) cannot put around the necks of future generations the milestone of continued additional pension contributions as long as the recipients or spouses are alive.

The Government should date any changes in the regulations from the end of the school year (August 31), allowing those whose applications have been accepted to go under existing arrangements. In the longer term, discussions should take place to find affordable ways in which teachers can be allowed to retire early without financial penalty.

Yours faithfully,

V. S. ANTHONY, Secretary,  
The Headmasters' and  
Headmistresses' Conference,  
130 Regent Road, Leicester.  
January 9.

*From Mr M. G. Sansbury*

Sir, The retirement of four out of five teachers before 60 suggests a serious loss of skill and experience, a great deal of dissatisfaction and frustration, and levels of stress met in few other professions.

There are obvious reasons for this untimely exodus. One is the extra work now required outside the classroom, so that teachers spend many more hours working than before, not always with clear benefit to their pupils. Another is that teachers' best efforts are often frustrated by disruptive pupils.

Rather than trying to transfer part of the huge cost of early pensions to local authorities, the Department for Education and Employment should address these and other causes of teachers' exasperation.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL SANSBURY,  
16 Park Avenue,  
Solihull, West Midlands.  
January 8.

*Enclosure Acts*

*From Mr M. Eden Irving*

Sir, Let us hope that the Hull County Court judgment on the enforcement of a 1765 Enclosure Act in the matter of the Flamborough hedge (report and leading article, January 3; letters, January 9) may affect the enforcement of other Enclosure Acts.

We have the Haltwhistle Enclosure Act of 1844 which requires the trustees (now our town council) to have the town green (or "allotment") enclosed as a place for exercise and recreation "in the first instance... fenced and drained at the general expense, and the fences and drains of such allotment shall for ever afterwards [my italics] be repaired and maintained by the... overseers [now town council]" (report, January 9).

Ever afterwards? It doesn't look like it from the present state of our green.

Yours faithfully,

M. EDEN IRVING,

The Coign, Comb Hill,

Haltwhistle, Northumberland.

January 9.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

### The finders and keepers of treasure

*From Mr Simon Denison*

Sir, In Gary Slapper's article on the new Treasure Act (Law, "Whose treasure now?", January 7), he reports the National Council of Metal Detecting's view that many of its members "will give up the hobby because there will no longer be any incentive". This is presumably because under the Act more artefacts are considered "treasure", and therefore the property of the Crown.

As joint author of the report *Metal Detecting and Archaeology in England* (English Heritage/CBA, 1995), from which some of Dr Slapper's statistics are taken and which formed one of the main influences behind the new Act, I am convinced that there are no real losers. The Act covers only a limited range of artefacts, providing plenty for detectorists to find and keep legitimately; it also provides that full financial compensation should be made to any finders of "treasure", exactly as before.

The long-running attempt to change the formerly absurd law of treasure trove has been dogged throughout by an impression that it represents a battle between "good" archaeologists and "bad" metal detectorists — an impression stoked up by irascible members of both sides.

The truth is rather that most archaeologists welcome the extremely productive efforts of detectorists to find buried artefacts — provided they share their knowledge — and most detectorists are delighted to be asked to help in the wider quest for knowledge about Britain's past.

Yours faithfully,  
SIMON DENISON  
(Editor, *British Archaeology*,  
Council for British Archaeology,  
Bowes Morrell House,  
111 Walngate, York.  
January 8.

*From Mr Andrew Selkirk*

Sir, Following the recent Treasure Act, the Department of National Heritage has just produced a draft code of practice which appears to allocate all "finds of national importance" (ie, the best) to the national museum and only treasure of local importance (ie, the second-rate) to local museums. Apparently (this is not clear) the British Museum is left to decide which is which.

### The Children Act

*From Mr Richard Jones*

Sir, In spite of the huge training programme that accompanied the implementation of the Children Act 1989, it is well understood that more cannot be paid out in pensions than is received in contributions (though until recently contributions exceeded payments). It is the implementation of the proposed sudden change in regulations in the middle of the school year which would be unacceptable.

Perfectly legitimate applications for early retirement from heads and teachers, who have given as much as 35 years dedicated service to the profession but are now worn out, will have to be turned down because employers (particularly in the independent sector) cannot put around the necks of future generations the milestone of continued additional pension contributions as long as the recipients or spouses are alive.

Although the Government has rightly recognised that, as a matter of good practice, the "development of a working partnership with parents is usually the most effective route to providing supplementary or substitute care for their children" (Department of Health guidance on the Act, 1990, my emphasis), the word "partnership" does not appear in the Act itself.

In my experience, the fact that some social workers hold the belief that working in partnership with parents is an absolute legislative requirement that must be applied in all cases has blighted the futures of a number of those children that the 1989 Act was meant to protect.

Yours faithfully,  
RICHARD JONES  
(Solicitor),  
18 Meadowside,  
Penarth, South Glamorgan.  
January 7.

### Water buffalo

*From Mr Martin Nicol*

Sir, I was intrigued to read of Bob Palmer's success in farming water buffalo (report, January 2; letter, January 7). In the jungles of South-East Asia, "stalags", as they are known in Malay, are notorious for charging through the jungle on the slightest pretext, and the local population uses the name to refer to humans with a similar disposition.

During my army jungle training anyone covered in cuts and bruises at the end of the day's hard slog was referred to as a stalag. Mr Palmer's herd looks remarkably civilised, so perhaps would be no use for training Territorials in jungle warfare.

Yours sincerely,

MARTIN NICOL,  
20 Graham Terrace, SW1.

January 8.

### Fishing quotas

*From the Earl of Radnor*

Sir, The enthusiasm of Mr Tony Baldry, Fisheries Minister, and the British fishing industry's pleasure at the outcome of the talks on quotas for the next year may be misplaced (letters, December 30, January 4). A strong suspicion must remain that the quotas are still too large, but the underlying worry is that the quota system is flawed. Fish taken that are over the quota (some 40 per cent of the total catch) are returned to the sea. Unfortunately nearly all if not all of them will die. This appalling waste must be stopped.

In my view, the way forward must be to decommission vessels until fishing effort matches the fish available to be caught. Such a programme, as has been suggested recently by Emma Bonino, the European Fisheries Commissioner, is drastic but better than running out of fish altogether. Examples of the latter situation can be seen in areas such as the Georges Banks (off the north-east coast of the US), the Newfoundland Banks and the Alaskan Pollock Fishery. The collapse of the Newfoundland fishing stocks alone has led to the loss of some 40,000 jobs throughout the Canadian fishing industry.

Yours faithfully,  
RADNOR,  
Longford Castle,  
Salisbury, Wiltshire.

January 5.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

### Charting history of remote islands

*From Dr Frank Preston*

Sir, Matthew Parry's charts of the remote Kerguelen Islands, more than 2,000 miles south of the Cape of Good Hope, may be more interesting historically than he realises (article, January 6).



## OBITUARIES

## ELSPETH HUXLEY

Elspeth Huxley, CBE, writer, died on January 10 aged 82. She was born in London on July 23, 1907.

Although she produced more than thirty books in a writing career which began in the mid-1930s, Elspeth Huxley will be best remembered in the popular imagination for her autobiography, *The Flame Trees of Thika*. First published in 1959, this evocative account of her upbringing in East Africa both before and after the First World War was an immense success when it was made into a series for Thames Television in the early 1980s.

The series was also controversial in Africa itself, since it was seen by many as justifying British colonial rule. When it was shown in Kenya, a number of MPs there criticised it as being racist, and the Nairobi *Daily Nation* described Elspeth Huxley as "one of the world's best-known apologists for colonial rule". Jamaican state television took one look at it and withdrew the programme. The charges puz-

led Huxley, whose maternal outlook was profoundly coloured by the spiritual life of the Africans among whom she had grown up. She always regarded the African approach to immortality as having a validity equal to that of what she called the "Western gentleman in the sky".

But she was no stranger to controversy in general. Most recently she was in the headlines again when she reminded the world that she had, 30 years ago, predicted the dangers inherent in modern methods of factory food production, with its importation of hormones and other outside agents into the food chain. She had been a cattle farmer herself in the 1950s, and her book *Brave New Victorians* (1965) was a savage critique of the whole principle of intensive food production of the type which has led to the BSE scare in our times.

Elspeth Huxley was the only child of Major Josceline Gurney ("a gentle, humorous, dreamy person whose dreams never came true", as she remembered him) and of his redeatable wife Nellie, a daughter of Lord St Leger. Her mother was later to become renowned in Africa for compiling a Swahili dictionary which was produced by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel. "It contained not very useful phrases like 'The idle slaves are scratching themselves'."



Elspeth Huxley later recalled:

At the end of 1912 her parents went out to Kenya where Elspeth spent the next three years before returning to England with her mother at the end of 1915. (Her father had left Kenya a year before to rejoin the Royal Scots.) She returned to East Africa in 1919, having contrived to make herself an intolerable nuisance at her English school with that very end in mind. She continued her education in Nairobi until it was time to return to England, in 1925, to read for an agricultural diploma at Reading University. After taking her diploma she went to Cornell for a year.

In 1928 she went to work for the Empire Marketing Board and became assistant press officer. There she met Gervais Huxley, a cousin of the novelist Aldous, who was in charge of publicity, and in 1931 they married. A year later Gervais was appointed to the Ceylon Tea Board, and several years of extensive travel followed for both of them.

Elspeth was now invited by the widow of the 3rd Lord Delamere to write his life, and for this she needed to revisit East Africa, which she had not

seen for eight years. The resulting book, *White Man's Country: Lord Delamere and the Making of Kenya*, came out in 1935, a substantial and authoritative work which established her reputation. "If you go on like this," her husband's cousin Julian told her, "you will make quite a good Huxley." She had acquired the *crocodile scribe*, and a novel *Red Strangers* and several detective stories followed, all with an East African background.

Indeed, her African experience, three years as a child and six more in adolescence, would remain the source of her best books. These included two volumes of fictionalised autobiography, *The Flame Trees of Thika* (1959) and *The Mottled Lizard* (1962), *The Challenge of Africa* (1970) and *Livingstone and his African Journeys* (1974); followed, and in 1979 she published a volume of excerpts from her mother's letters entitled *Nellie: Letters from Africa*, to which she prefixed a lengthy memoir. Many consider this book as good as anything she ever wrote.

She also published, in collaboration with Margery

Perham, *Race and Politics in Kenya* (1944) and she served as an independent member on the Monckton Advisory Committee on Central Africa in 1960. She was on the General Advisory Council of the BBC 1952-59; was a JP for Wiltshire, where she and Gervais had made their home from 1939, and took an active part in local affairs and causes. She was appointed CBE in 1962. She remained tireless into old age, her last book being *Peter Scott, Painter and Naturalist* (1993). She had earlier written *Scot of the Antarctic* (1977).

Her published works re-

count her experience of Africa and England and of Australia, but they also reveal a personality too vigorous and outspoken always to have time for the social refinements of gentleness and tact. Nevertheless, she was an excellent hostess and a welcome guest, whose independent mind ensured that conversation would not slide off into trivialities but would be more likely to provoke controversy — which she always enjoyed. And she respected the independence of others, of her mother, who lived to be 92, and of her son's three young sons whose childhood interests she sought to encourage from her own wide experience or by enlisting her friends' help when that was needed. She was not only a talented writer but an outstanding personality.

Gervais Huxley died in 1971 and she is survived by her son.

Elspeth Huxley died in 1971 and she is survived by her son.

## TOBY FALK

Toby Falk, art historian, died from cancer on January 10 aged 54. He was born on July 6, 1942.

THE early death of Toby Falk has taken from the fine art world one of its most highly respected connoisseurs. His contribution to the field of oriental miniatures, and manuscripts, particularly that of Indian painting, was immense.

The younger son of a Wiltshire doctor, Stephen John Falk — invariably known as Toby — grew up in an environment of collecting, with his father patronising the work of modern British artists. Even at the age of three he discovered a silver thimble in what, he claimed, was a "dusty corner" at a children's party.

Educated at Rugby and King's College, Cambridge, where he read Natural Sciences, he was a frequent visitor to the London museums and galleries of Bond Street and St James's. In the early Sixties, the Hungarian dealer Andra Kalman spotted his observant eye and felt he might become a painter.

He joined Sotheby's in 1964 as a porter, before moving to the book department to catalogue sales of oriental minia-



These books established Toby Falk as a major scholar, and his reputation was reinforced by several exhibition catalogues, most notably the Colnaghi catalogue of important Persian and Mogul art during the Festival of Islam in 1976. He was also editor of *India Office Library* (1981), a valuable and much welcomed reference work for both academics and collectors.

being able to advise institutions, galleries and private collectors alike, and his knowledge, integrity and discretion, won him worldwide respect.

In 1989, again with Mildred

Archer, he published *India Revealed*, an account of the papers and collection of James and William Fraser, two Scotsmen in India at the

beginning of the 19th century. The Fraser collection included superb Indian watercolours executed for the brothers, a unique group of "Company School" pictures, a term given to work by Indian artists in a Western style, commissioned by their British patrons. The publication of the Fraser collection some seven years ago placed Company School art firmly on the map of oriental painting.

Toby Falk's love of botany was evident from an early age (he won a prize at prep school for a collection of wild flowers) and stayed with him all his life. His concern for the environment later years was another expression of this love, and oriental paintings of flowers and birds gave him much pleasure, as indicated in *Birds in an Indian Garden* (1984), written with his wife. However, his interests were not confined to oriental art: he was also knowledgeable on antique glass, and in the Sixties when he lived close to Portobello Road he started a wonderful collection of china and pottery jugs.

He is survived by his wife

Gael, who made valuable contributions to his research, particularly to *India Revealed*, and their daughter.

I am, Sir, &c.

## FURIOUS DRIVING

To the Editor of The Times

Sir, Mr Hubbard calls your attention to the careless driving of heavy vans, a danger to which all who traverse the streets are daily exposed. Why not compel all vehicles to carry an efficient brake if they require to go faster than five miles an hour, and fine those drivers who exceed that pace, whether an accident result or not from their rapid driving? Brakes are at last becoming pretty generally applied to London omnibuses, much to the relief of the horses drawing them; and it would be no hardship to insist on the possession of a brake by every vehicle passing along our crowded streets.

I am, Sir, &c.

## SALT ON ROADS

Sir, Much has been written of late about clearing the streets, and much about shoeing and roughing horses to enable them to travel on snow and frosty roads. To rough horses enough for the traffic is

## JILL SUMMERS

Jill Summers, actress, died from kidney failure in Salford on January 11 aged 86. She was born in 1910.

JILL SUMMERS had a long career in light entertainment and comedy that covered both variety and television. In the 1940s and 1950s she frequently topped the bill as a singer on the then powerful Moss Empires circuit. She was also a respected revue artist and character comedienne.

Although at one stage of her career she had been known as "the pin-up girl of British Railways", it was only in 1982 that she became a household name to millions as Phyllis Pearce, the blue-rinsed and gravel-voiced pensioner in Granada Television's *Coronation Street*. In TV's longest-running soap opera Phyllis was renowned as the local batteaxie and had opinions about everything, but the most important thing in her life was Percy Sugden, a similarly-natured, grumpy pensioner.

Percy was played by the actor Bill Waddington and three times a week viewers would try to guess whether Phyllis would ever tie the marital knot with him. She was famous for such lines as "Eeoh, Percy, luv, come round to my flat. I've made a lovely cake for you — you can just put your feet up and relax". She would give a sly wink and adjust her hair, while Percy promptly made a quick exit.

Jill Summers was born in Eccles, the daughter of Marie Santoni, an actress and singer, while her father, Alf Rose, worked in a circus as a tightrope walker. Although she spent some of her childhood with foster parents, her mother was keen that the entire family should work together in the business. Jill had four sisters and a brother, and while she was still only six the family toured the prov-

inces in small-scale revues, in which she emerged as a talented comedienne.

In her early twenties, she started a song and comedy act with her brother Tom. It was then that she damaged her vocal cords hitting a high note and ended up with the voice that became Phyllis Pearce's trademark.

She toured with Ensa during the Second World War, then returned to variety as a solo act, playing major dates in Britain and supporting on many occasions such people as Tommy Trinder, Max Wall, Dick Emery and Arthur Askey. As variety theatres closed in the late 1950s she appeared in summer seasons and pantomimes as a guest artiste, but it was in 1972 that she first appeared in *Corona-*

*tion Street* as Bessie Proctor, Hilda Ogden's charwoman friend.

Ten years later she offered the part of Phyllis Pearce, expecting to appear for only two weeks. She commented after ten years: "Phyllis grew on me and grew as a character. I loved the part." She appeared in more than 500 episodes of the soap opera, although poor health kept recent appearances to a minimum.

Serious health worries began when she collapsed with angina on *This Is Your Life* as Michael Aspel handed her the famous red book.

She married Dr Clifford Simpson-Smith in 1948. They were married for 35 years until his death in 1983. She is survived by an adopted son.



Phyllis Pearce (Jill Summers) and her Coronation Street heart-throb Percy Sugden (Bill Waddington)

## THE EARL OF BORTHWICK

The 23rd Earl of Borthwick, John Henry Stuart Borthwick of That

III, farmer, died on December 30, aged 91. He was born on September 13, 1905.

AMID Harry Borthwick's achievements, none gave him greater satisfaction than his resumption of a title, dormant since 1910, which originated in one of the most romantic periods in Scotland's history. His successful claim before the Lyon Court, Scotland's court of heraldry, allowed him to take his place in the House of Lords — of which he was an assiduous, if unobtrusive, member — and thus to right a wrong created in part by a 15th-century forgery.

John Henry Stuart Borthwick was born in Borthwick Castle, Midlothian. His father had sold his Muir estates to restore the ancestral seat, in the expectation of succeeding to a title which had been intermittently dormant. The castle was built around 1430 by the 1st Lord Borthwick, Mary Queen of Scots was besieged there by the Confederate Lords in 1567 and its massive, vaulted structure was damaged by Cromwell's army. However, his father's petition for the title failed because he was unable to prove that a superior line had been extinguished, and a year later, in 1911, the family moved to Crookston, where it has lived ever since. Borthwick's father died in 1937.

Many of the household staff came from the Muir estate and at the age of seven Borthwick spoke Gaelic as well as English. He also was fluent in Lowland Scots, the old language of the Scottish court. He regretted its loss: traces of it survive today only in rural areas and in the slippish urban dialect.

He was educated at Fettes, the Department of Agriculture. When a tenant farmer at Crookston died he took over a farm of 18,000 acres. After ten years of hard work, largely in stock farming, he was able to clear his debts and concentrate on reclaiming the title.

He commissioned genealogical research which took advantage of Vatican records and improved the indexing of Scottish public documents. In a 1986 judgment the Lord Lyon King of Arms, Malcolm Innes of Edington, found that he was the 23rd Earl, not the 24th as Borthwick had believed and the 17th direct male descendant of the 1st Lord Borthwick. The judgment ex-

tinguished superior "stirpes" (pedigrees) and found that the existence of a 2nd Lord Borthwick had been inferred from forged land deeds.

The process of research and litigation strengthened his interest in Scottish history. He helped to revive the moribund Convention of the Scottish Baronage, a relic of pre-Union Scotland. The Scottish feudal barons — whose titles came with the land they owned — attended the Scottish Parliament until its dissolution in 1707 but, after the 1745 rising, their heritable powers of local jurisdiction were removed by an Act of the United Kingdom Parliament. But they retained ceremonial duties and Borthwick was Hereditary Falconer of Scotland to the Queen.

His other passion was the military and hospitaller Order of Saint Lazarus of Jerusalem, the oldest such chivalrous order in Europe. It survives as a charitable organisation, and a Grand Bailiwick was founded in Scotland in 1935. Borthwick helped to revive it after the war, and it raised money to run hospitals in the Third World. A schism developed between two tendencies — those with allegiance to the order's French roots and those who asserted a Spanish Bourbon lineage. Borthwick worked strenuously to achieve a reconciliation.

In the House of Lords he served on various committees and was a regular listener to debates. He also served as a councillor on the old Midlothian County Council and on numerous committees involved with rating, agriculture, landowning and forestry.

He was a member of the Standing Council of Scottish (clan) Chiefs. His wife Margaret Frances, died in 1976. He is survived by twin sons. His heir is John Hugh Borthwick, Master of Borthwick. The judgment ex-



Despite moving at a speed of ten miles an hour, traffic presented problems and irritation in the streets of the metropolis during the last century, even if pollution was not among them.

a simple impossibility. Farriers do not keep more hands than are requisite for ordinary work, and it is absurd, therefore, to expect that they have the means for roughing at a moment's notice one hundredth part of the horses required for daily public service. Mr Fleming's plan of frost pegs is good enough for private or army purposes, but those who have to deal with the common traffic of London know how impossible it is to apply such means.

As, then, it is not possible to make

## Church news

## ON THIS DAY

January 13, 1879

roads fit to travel on slippery roads, why is not attention paid to making the roads safe for ordinary shoes? This can be done in a few minutes. It is done in many of the London parishes by the simple application of a small quantity of salt on the crown of the road.

It is said by the authorities who object to salt that it damages the macadam roads, and that it makes cold water, which is dangerous to health. Both objections are open to dispute, but, admitting them to be true, there remain the questions whether the convenience of free circulation of traffic is not worth some possible cost in repairing of roads, and whether there are not more people who catch cold from being compelled to walk through the snow for want of conveyances than there are persons with thin shoes who get their feet wet in the imaginary salt snow water.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A.G. Church,  
General Manager and Secretary,  
The London General Omnibus  
Company (Limited)

## Appointments

The Rev Mark Abrey, Assistant Curate, West Derby St Mary: to be Priest-in-charge, Amfield St Margaret, and Chaplain, Alder Hey Children's Hospital (Liverpool). Canon Bernard Baker, Curate-in-charge, Ryde St James Proprietary Chapel (Portsmouth): to be on the staff at the Amari Christian Training Centre (Crosslinks) in Kuaha, Jamaica.

The Rev Dr William Brierley, Assistant Curate, Amersham w Colchester: to be Team Vicar (designate) in the Wheatsheaf Team Ministry (Oxford). The Rev Derek Carrivick, Rector, Battersea w Hurley and Wood End and Merton w Bentley and Diocesan Ecumenical Officer: to be also Rural Dean of Polesworth, and ceasing as Diocesan Ecumenical Officer (Birmingham).

The Rev David Chamberlin, Assistant Curate, Chatham SS Philip and James (Rochester): to be Vicar, Swardston w

East Carleton, Intwood, Keswick and Ketteringham (Norwich). The Rev Nils Chittenden, Assistant Curate, Benfieldside: to be Industrial and Urban Regeneration Chaplain in Gateshead with the Northumbrian Industrial Mission (Durham). The Rev Trevor Davies, Assistant Curate (NSM), Waverton: is also Honorary Assistant Chaplain, Countess of Chester Hospital (Chester). The Rev Linda Denness, Assistant Curate (NSM), Portsea St Mary: to be Assistant Curate (NSM), Ashton Hayes since December 1, 1996 (Chester). The Rev Jacque Jones, Chaplain, Chelmsford Cathedral (Chelmsford): to be Vicar, Bridgeman St Matthew (Portsmouth). The Rev Peter Kelly, Vicar, Eastney St Margaret: to be Priest-in-charge, Swanmore St Barnabas (Portsmouth). The Rev Sharon Kyle, formerly Assistant Curate, Edinburgh St James (Edinburgh): has been Assistant Curate, Neston since November 1, 1996 (Chester). The Rev David Felix, Vicar, Grange: to be also Priest-in-charge, Runnymede Holy Trinity (Chester). The Rev David Meakin, Precentor, Sacrist and Minor Canon, Durham Cathedral: to be Vicar, Ryhope (Durham).

## NEWS

**Blair plans new deal for schools**

■ Tony Blair yesterday launched a personal crusade to transform standards in Britain's schools as he declared that his first priority for an incoming Labour government would be a far-reaching Education Bill.

It would include plans to reduce class sizes, improve literacy in primary schools, set targets for homework, replace poor head teachers and take over bad schools. .... Page 1

**Wife of Royal guard murdered**

■ Patricia Coulton, 52, the wife of a Royal Protection Group police constable, was found stabbed to death in the grounds of Lynwood Nursing Home in Sunningdale, Berkshire. Until recently her husband, Michael, regularly patrolled Buckingham Palace. He is also believed to have been one of the team responsible for security at the Duke of York's house. .... Page 1

**Labour reforms**

The Labour Party is drawing up sweeping reforms to reduce the power of its ruling body, the National Executive Committee, and to transform an annual party conference. .... Page 2

**School sex suit**

One of Britain's oldest schools is considering suing two parents who made claims of sexual impropriety against senior teachers. Police cleared the two male teachers last week. .... Page 3

**\$6m businessman**

A businessman who left school without any O-Levels has become a multi-millionaire at the age of 33 after selling his computer company, Tim Roots, who claims to be computer illiterate, made \$6 million (£3.5 million) from the deal. .... Page 3

**IRA attack**

The IRA was accused of endangering the lives of an entire community in County Fermanagh after terrorists fired two mortar bombs at a police station. Page 4

**Branson diary**

Richard Branson's diary of his failed attempt to circumnavigate the globe is published exclusively. .... Page 5

**Years drag on**

Proof that smoking makes people look older has been found by scientists studying the skin of identical twins. .... Page 6

**Humpback sets whale of a record**

■ The fastest whale in the world may be a humpback known only as 339, which has astonished scientists by making a record-breaking migration from Alaska to the Hawaiian islands. Normally, whales take an average of 102 days to make the 2,775-mile trip. But 339 made the journey in 39 days — slashing the average time by 63 days. .... Page 6



Bertrand Piccard and Wim Verstraeten take off from an Alpine meadow yesterday in an attempt to become the first balloonists to go round the world. The journey ended six hours later when leaking fumes forced them to ditch in the Mediterranean. .... Page 1

**BUSINESS**

**Restaurant bid**: National Express, the bus company, has been short-listed as one of five possible buyers of Welcome Break, Granada's roadside restaurants arm. .... Page 44

**Shoe threat**: Liam Strong, the chief executive of Saxon, aims to dispose of the British Shoe Corporation unless it improves its dismal performance. .... Page 44

**Ford meeting**: Union leaders at Ford's Halewood car plant will meet management as speculation mounts over the future of the factory. .... Page 44

**Bank payout**: A subsidiary of Union Bank of Switzerland is to offer compensation to 90 investors who claim to have lost \$2.7 million in foreign exchange deals in Jersey. .... Page 41

**Office life**: Mariella Frostrup moves into her own office. .... Page 13

**FEATURES**

**Brighter future**: With demand for graduates outstripping supply, university is the path to a good career. But should students choose arts or science, asks Anjana Ahuja. .... Page 12

**Right choice**: In the end, it was the symbolism of my 30th birthday and the fear that further delay would deprive me of a decent run at a second career that settled it. Tim Hames changes career. .... Page 12

**Private thoughts**: Hiding from the Nazis, Anne Frank and Peter van Daan discovered the first stirrings of adolescent love. Extracts from her diary, suppressed until now because of their sometimes painful candour. .... Pages 14, 15

**Invisible star**: The story of Marni Nixon, the woman who sang for Audrey Hepburn and Deborah Kerr in their most famous film roles, is told in a new one-woman play, *Showstopper*. .... Page 17

**Melvyn Bragg**: "I am convinced that ITV's debate on the monarchy could be regarded as a landmark in television." .... Page 16

**Swan watch**: Tchaikovsky's great ballet *Swan Lake* is never far from the Covent Garden repertoire, a useful touchstone for assessing the performing health of the Royal Ballet. .... Page 16

**New look**: The Bush Theatre in west London is back in business after a six-month refurbishment, with a new play by Richard Cawson, *All Of You Mine*. .... Page 17

**Football**: Another spectacular goal by David Beckham earned Manchester United a 2-1 win at Tottenham Hotspur, pushing them into second place in the FA Carling Premiership. .... Page 23

**Boxing**: Scott Welch's inability to mount a credible challenge to Henry Akinwande hampered the Briton's attempt to establish world-title credentials. .... Page 24

**Cricket**: Michael Atherton, the England captain, has talked at length to Michael Henderson about the trials and tribulations that have beset his term of office. .... Page 25

**Rugby union**: Defeats for Leicester and Bath, who have monopolised the Courage Clubs Championship in recent seasons, gave further incentive to the league's dark horses. .... Page 30

**Tennis**: David Miller believes the rapid development of Tim Henman means that it is now a matter of when, not if, the young Briton will win his first grand-slam title. .... Page 32

**Schools sport**: Howard Wilkinson, the FA's new technical director, will have to bridge a chasm between schools and football authorities if the game is to improve. .... Page 13

**Preview**: A new science fiction series is set in the 1960s. *Dark Skies: The Awakening* (Channel 4; 9pm). **Review**: Matthew Bond wishes Shirley Bassey was 50 every Saturday night. .... Page 43

**New year, new career**

As our series starting today shows, the conventional linear career is becoming as dated as a bowler hat. .... Page 19

**Athens and Ankara**

Neither Turkey's European nor American partners have formulated a coherent strategy to rekindle their links with Ankara. The Eastern Question has returned in all its complexity and danger. .... Page 19

**Going underground**

If the Government is to deserve re-election it must show it has not run out of steam — privatising the Underground would be evidence of a commitment to its traditional enterprise ideals and proof of continuing vitality. .... Page 19

**WILLIAM REES-MOGG**

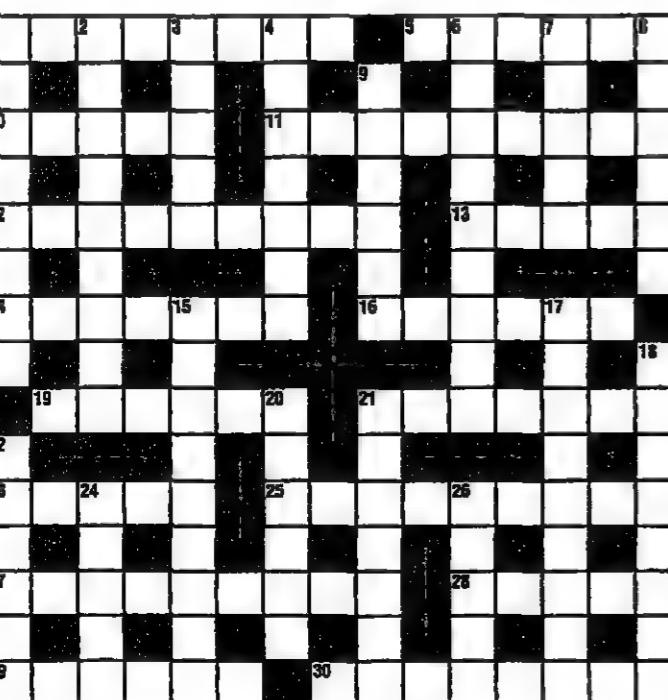
By comparative European figures, health provision needs another 1 per cent of gross domestic product to be restored to viability. That is £5.5 billion. This is where the Labour equation comes unstuck. There is a worldwide public reluctance to pay higher taxes. So if Britain wants to bring health provision up to the European standard, it is the private sector that needs to be expanded. .... Page 18

**MATTHEW PARRIS**

That the average Briton has 2.4 children, when no Briton actually has 2.4 children points us to a profound error in the fashion for constructing our supposed countrymen from the results of polls. It is perfectly possible to paint, from data about the opinion and practice of the many, a picture of a "typical" citizen with which no living creature actually accords. I think this is what the mass media do. .... Page 18

Elspeth Huxley, writer; Jill Summers, *Coronation Street* actress; Toby Falck, art historian; the Earl of Borthwick, farmer. .... Page 21

Teacher pension funds; keeping treasure trove; Kerguelen Islands; adoption; hedgerow rules. .... Page 19

**THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,375****ACROSS**

- 1 Skill shown by Constable initially, painting light vehicle (8).
- 5 A couple of points covered by the present dissertation (6).
- 10 Girl recognized as musical right away (5).
- 11 Boy seized in atrocious out East? It's not unusual (9).
- 12 Pass idly during absence on holiday (5,4).
- 13 A wife like Queen Wilhelmina (5).
- 14 Money from fund Lee misused (7).
- 16 In three choruses, repeat sound twice? (2-4).
- 19 Moneylender quietly abandoned by one seizing property (6).
- 21 Book to keep for oneself (7).
- 23 Bandy words in a Parisian street about midnight (5).
- 25 It's taken away — this is the logical conclusion (9).
- 27 Nominates new assembly for (9).

**The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,374 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will each receive a £20 book token.**

**state (9).**

- 28 Primate briefly requiring a lot of fruit (5).
- 29 Small number a gallery put on the staff (6).
- 30 Clothing bishop possibly curse (8).
- 4 Restoration of one organ we erected inside (7).
- 6 Plumed hat, possibly produced by ambassador before speech (9).
- 7 Alter a dress (5).
- 8 Yacht rounding cape followed by the cutter (6).
- 9 Possibly collects article held by busbody (6).
- 15 Stuffing many in army consume (9).
- 17 Retreat for art lovers in St. Petersburg (9).
- 18 Young person's support, of course, uplifted tragic princess (8).
- 20 Description of poker very recently received? (3-3).
- 21 Spread out charge, accepting rising assistance (7).
- 22 Cricketer's son departs, becoming officer's attendant (6).
- 24 Creature mostly spotted in East, trapped by man (5).
- 26 Affliction makes us angry (5).

Times Two Crossword, page 44

**AA INFORMATION**

London Road and Weather conditions

UK Weather: All regions

UK Roads - All regions

UK Meteo

UK Weather: All roads

UK Meteo

TODAY

IN THE TIMES GREAT SEASON OF SPORT

**POP GOES A TRADITION**  
Sport for All PAGE 36

**RUNNING WILD**  
Schools cross-country in Knole Park PAGE 33

**BEST OF TRIES**  
Blanco charges towards greatness PAGE 31

**LIFTING THE MASK**  
Michael Atherton on England, captaincy and life PAGE 25

# TIMES SPORT

MONDAY JANUARY 13 1997

UNITED'S CHAMPIONSHIP CHALLENGE TAKES OFF

## Beckham serves second helping

Tottenham Hotspur ..... 1  
Manchester United ..... 2

BY ROB HUGHES  
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

DOES anyone possess the deep desire, the quality and the belief to win the 1996-97 FA Carling Premiership title? Manchester United do. Having laid in wait on a Saturday on which all their main competitors either drew or lost, they overcame a genuinely spirited Tottenham Hotspur challenge at White Hart Lane yesterday. With a cool finish from Solskjær, then another breathtaking 25-yard shot from Beckham, they made up for all their deficiencies by securing victory. The crossbar that denied the London club twice in 30 seconds appeared to have conspired with United.

"We have stumbled in several top, you know?" Alex Ferguson, the United manager, said. "Ourselfs not in a perfect position, there are hard days to come, and all the remaining contention will be causing each other's throat." Sir Alex Ferguson failed to tempt David Moyes away with a bid to sign him, while Henning Berg, still in Scotland, their attempt is finished, but not so United who, now unbeaten for ten games and victorious in five of the last six, have overtaken everyone.

Pearce inspires ..... 25  
Keegan's legacy ..... 27  
Steve McMenemy ..... 27  
Results and tables ..... 28  
Aston Villa pay penalty ..... 28

bar Liverpool, behind whom United stand just two points adrift and with a precious game in hand.

The implications are alarming for the championship. United, yesterday as before playing people out of position because of wear-and-tear injuries, pushing Moy through yet another week because a surgeon, had flu and his hernia operation was postponed, are overhauling pretenders to their throne while not playing to their best. Furthermore, they have been almost blatant in their admission that Europe is the No 1 priority this season, a priority that Ferguson could not forget even last night.

Yet what of Tottenham. Wounded in all departments, the bottom dropping out of their season, they bloodied another foreigner, the Swiss centre back, Ramon Vega. While he lasted, Vega showed touches of intelligence, rose majestically to create the Tottenham goal, but became erratic as the frenzy of English football consumed him. Yet Gerry Francis, beaten for the third time this season by United, has restored in the past week his reputation as a tactician. At Old Trafford in the third round of the FA Cup the previous Sunday, he had seven first-team men missing and played cat and mouse. For an hour he almost brought it off. Yesterday, changing the tactics — as did Ferguson, who opted for three central defenders to try to ease Pallister into his first game of the year — Tottenham used players



Beckham celebrates after scoring his spectacular winning goal for Manchester United against Tottenham Hotspur at White Hart Lane yesterday. Photograph: Marc Aspland

such as Wilson and Sinton in alien roles; and both responded to their manager with effective performances.

And how explosively the young Norwegian, Iversen, attempted to make an impression on the game. Tall, blond and athletic, he will shoot from any angle, any distance. Sometimes it is greedy, but just as often it looks like justified optimism. His was the first attempt on goal, eluding Johnson, spotting Schmeichel off his line, producing a looping dipping volley, perhaps a foot over the crossbar.

Then, in the nineteenth minute, he repeated the dynamism. This time it was Pallister he fixed, and this time the dipping shot came wickedly down off the underside of the bar. Even then, Sinton collected the rebound, swept past May, fired towards goal ... and Schmeichel's charm worked a second time, the ball coming back onto play off virtually the same spot on the bar.

With such luck, you could almost predict the riposte. In the 23rd minute, United broke the length of the field. Keane was twice involved; Scholes and Cantona then moved the ball a pace quicker than thought, and when Cantona's superb touch divided Carr and Campbell, Solskjær was running in anticipation. He kept his eye on the ball, he kept his nerve, he ignored the onrushing Vega trying to make a last tackle, and he gave Walker no chance with a crisply struck, low shot from an acute angle.

Within a minute, Giggs had wasted an invitation from Solskjær to score from an easier position. Tottenham took time to rediscover authority and appetite, but equalised just before half-time. It was a simple goal, sweetly concluded. Sinton took a corner on the right, Vega produced his powerful leap to head down and, on the bounce, young Rory Allen stooped to flick the ball past Schmeichel. It was the first goal United had conceded in six games.

After the interval, passion was mis-spent, with wild tackles bringing seven yellow cards, the worst of them, as usual, being from Keane. His manager's praise seems to go to his head, and in this instant his boot went to the head of Carr.

But there were miscreants on both sides and even Cantona in one of his more detached moods became fired up. Thank goodness, therefore, that there was only admiration for the winning stroke. Both teams had rearranged themselves from continental formations to the British 4-4-2 when Poborsky, one of the substitutes, advanced rapidly to turn defence into attack.

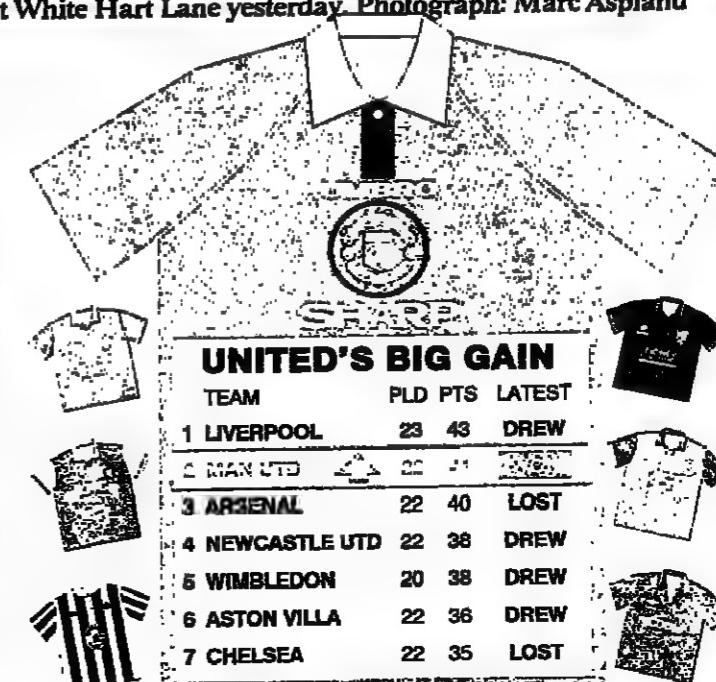
When he found Beckham, lurking 25 yards out, one could sense the outcome. For here was a young Englishman with the finish of Bobby Charlton in his soul. Twenty-five yards is no distance to him, but whereas a week ago he destroyed the England prospects of

Walker with a cushioned shot from the instep of his right boot, this time he induced swerve with the outside of the same foot, making the ball rise and then veer dramatically beyond the goalkeeper.

Ferguson was leaping out of his dug-out, a manager of 22 seasons enthused like a boy at the magician's ability of Beckham. Somewhere in the home crowd, the grandfather of David Beckham, a Tottenham Hotspur season ticket holder, went through mixed emotions. Here was his boy, drawing boos from the home crowd, because he had forsaken his north London heritage and chosen to score goals like this for the team from up north.

**TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR** (3-4-1-2): P Schmeichel — R Vega (sub D Austin 89min), C Calderwood, S Campbell — S Carr (sub R Fox 82), D Howells, C Wilson, J Edinburgh — A Sinton — R Allen. S Wilson (sub M Bodenham).

**MANCHESTER UNITED** (3-5-1-1): P Schmeichel — D May, R Johnson (sub C Cooper, 78), G Paliiser — G Neville, D Beakham, R Keane, P Scholes (sub K Poborsky, 69), R Giggs — E Cantona — O G Solskjær (sub A Cole, 68). Referee: M Bodenham.



**Personal banking... Anywhere. Worldwide. By phone. Free.**

Call us anytime on 0800 00 88 00. Wherever you are, CitiPhone Banking gives you free 24 hour access to your account 365 days a year.

**CITIBANK**  
THE CITI NEVER SLEEPS.

## BBC's tennis service cloaked in intrigue

When Tim Henman made it to the semi-finals of the ATP Grand Slam Cup shortly before Christmas there were rumblings of discontent at Eurosport, the pan-European satellite channel. Not far, they moaned, the Grand Slam was on Sky, which shows only a handful of tennis tournaments a year. We, on the other hand, show every event on the ATP Tour. When was he going to come good for us?

Very soon was the answer, with Henman making it to the final of the Qatar Open before losing to Jim Courier and then threatening to do even better in Sydney. Saturday, then, was supposed to be pay-back time, the big reward for all those hours of hard work that Simon Reed and Co put in commenting on tourna-



MATTHEW BOND  
TV ACTION REPLAY

ments that most of us have never heard of. Here it was, the final of the Sydney International, "live and exclusive". Actually, it was neither. Not live was understandable. Even if the channel had been able to negotiate a bit of after-hours satellite time, the time difference would still have ensured that the audience for live coverage of Henman versus Moya was tiny. Delayed coverage was fine. After all, under Eurosport's comprehensive agreement with the ATP Tour, it was still exclusive, wasn't it?

No, it wasn't — not any more. The BBC, displaying considerable enterprise, somehow negotiated a last-minute deal that allowed it to show both the semi-final against Ivanisevic in *Sport on Friday* and the final in *Grandstand* — before Eurosport had a

chance to show either game. Once Barry Davies and Bill Threlfall had done their stuff for the BBC, it was hardly worth Reed and Frew McMillan turning up.

The details of the deal are difficult to track down but, under the satellite channel's contract with the ATP Tour, Eurosport is obliged to sublet the rights to terrestrial broadcasters in "appropriate circumstances". Quite what circumstances would be considered appropriate for the

satellite channel to give away this weekend's crown jewel, however, is anybody's guess. But for those who hold the future of the non-subscription channel dear, let us hope they included a large cheque.

This may yet prove to be little more than opportunist one-off by the BBC but there are signs — worrying for Eurosport but encouraging for those without satellite dishes — that it may not be. Consider the Australian Open, a tournament which in recent years the

satellite channel has been able to make its own.

This week its coverage begins in traditional style, with the last two hours of play being shown live here between 10am and noon, followed by up to six hours of delayed coverage of the earlier events.

This week, however, the BBC's coverage of the tournament also begins with round one. Whether Henman plays today or tomorrow, a special highlights programme is to be parachuted into the appropriate evening schedule to chart how our man gets on against Andre Pavel. Whatever the result, the BBC promises this will be followed by updates on *Sportsnight* on Wednesday, *Sport on Friday* and *Grandstand*, before a regular highlights programme gets underway in week two. It concludes

## Woods and Lehman in final confrontation

TIGER WOODS, the rookie of the year on the US PGA Tour last year, set up a final-round battle with Tom Lehman, the player of the year, at the Mercedes championship, which begins the season in Carlsbad, California. Woods picked up seven-under-par 65 to move into joint first place with Lehman, who had led after the first two rounds. Nick Faldo ended the third round 12 shots off the lead after a 71.

Woods, who began the third round trailing Lehman by four strokes, birdied the final four holes to reach a 14-under-par total of 202 along with the British Open champion, Lehman, who scored a third-round 69. The pair staved five strokes clear of fellow American Guy Boros, who shot a 70 to finish at nine-under.

Arnold Palmer has withdrawn from competitive sport to undergo treatment for prostate cancer. Mr Palmer, 67, was optimistic that he could be cured but said that he would retire temporarily "until this thing is taken care of".

## Clarke reclaims crown

CYCLING: Barrie Clarke confirmed his top ranking among Britain's cyclo-cross riders yesterday when he regained the national open title. Today he can expect an added bonus with the announcement that he will lead the Great Britain world championship squad in Munich on February 2.

Clarke, the Raleigh team leader, won by eight seconds from Steve Knight, who finished eighth on the same Sutton Coldfield circuit a year ago. Clarke's partner, Caroline Alexander, won the women's title for the fourth time.

Photograph, page 34

## Fourth win for Wiberg

SKIING: Pernilla Wiberg emerged from a chaotic weekend in Austria closer to her first overall World Cup title. After bad weather had prevented the downhill race at Bad Kleinkirchheim on Friday, Wiberg finished fifth in the downhill on Saturday, won by Heidi Zurbriggen, of Switzerland, before winning the super giant slalom yesterday. It was the Swede's fourth World Cup victory this season. While his rivals struggled, Thomas Sykora, of Austria, mastered conditions at Chamonix to win the men's slalom by an impressive 1.66 seconds.

## Fears grow for skipper

SAILING: Hopes were dwindling last night for the Canadian Vendee Globe skipper, Jerry Roule, who has not been heard of for a week after he encountered 70-knot winds and heavy seas 2,600 miles west of Chile. Yesterday Marc Thierry, the French skipper, who was one place behind Roule in third position, gave up his search for his friend.

Photograph, page 33

## Close call for champions

BOWLS: The Australians, Kelvin Kerlow and Ian Schuback, using the Woodsides International Masters pairs tournament at Co Antrim to prepare for the defence of their pairs indoor title at Preston next week, stretched the 1994 world indoor champions, Gary Smith and Andy Thomson, from Kent, before losing 5-7, 7-6, 7-3. The Australian pair had won their previous two matches.

## Saive sweeps to title

TABLE TENNIS: The Belgian champion, Jon-Michel Saive, won the English Open championship at Kettering last night after overwhelming Peter Korbel, of the Czech Republic, 21-10, 21-15, 21-19 in the final. In the women's final, Tong Feiming, of Taipei, who spent 1995 playing in England but is now based in Germany, defeated the top seed, Chi Po Wa, of Hong Kong, 21-10, 23-21, 21-10.

## Steelers come through

ICE HOCKEY: Cardiff Devils and Sheffield Steelers continue to dominate the Superleague and both won on Saturday. The Steelers recovered from their midweek reverse in Wales with a 4-3 overtime win over Basingstoke Bison. The Devils travelled to Scotland and beat Ayr Scottish Eagles 7-4, with Vezio Sacatini scoring three times. Nottingham Panthers beat Bracknell Bees 6-5.

## HOCKEY

### Second-half goal spree by St Albans

By SYDNEY FRASER

ST ALBANS pulled themselves out of a tight corner at East Grinstead yesterday to beat Reading 8-5 and qualify for finals night of the National Indoor Club championship at Crystal Palace on February 7.

The veteran champion gave McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two or three rounds but was unable to make up the points deficit.

The veteran champion gave

McCullough a boxing lesson in the early rounds, catching him with stinging left counters. McCullough came back in the last two

مكتبة من الأصل

## Atherton reveals that his term in office is unlikely to extend beyond the Ashes

# Leader who has leaving on his mind

**M**ichael Atherton has known some trying times in his four years as England captain but the past two months have been as testing as any. When he went to Zimbabwe in November his back was so bad he could not touch his toes. When he left Africa last week those toes were not touching the ground. He had been tried and convicted in a media courtroom, and had a noose fitted round his neck.

Perhaps it is gallows humour that makes him seem so chirpy. Whatever, Atherton cuts a composed figure as England begin their tour of New Zealand with a four-day match in Palmerston North today. This is an important year for him. He has had a benefit season at Lancashire and a book purporting to tell his life story, to which he realises he should have withheld his assent, is due out in the summer.

Then there is the little matter of the Ashes. Atherton would like to lead England against Australia; whether he is invited depends to a large extent on how well the team performs in New Zealand. If England play poorly, nobody will need to tell him to stand down. Already he is thinking of a career beyond cricket, not necessarily within the game. He will not be short of offers, because he is an intelligent, well-rounded man whose gifts are apparent to those who observe him close-up.

Before then there are still some things he wants to achieve as a player.

The best thing one can say about Atherton is that, although cricket means a lot to him, it has never been more than a game. He

has a sense of proportion denied to some of his critics, and can only laugh at the spectacle of a national newspaper the day that demanded he be knighted 14 months ago, calling for his head on a silver platter.

I know Atherton well. He looks happier than for some time, in the knowledge that his term in office is drawing to a close. I hope he can take his leave as he chooses, but I am pleased he is going soon. It means we can all get down to the delightful business of rippling somebody else's head oil.

MH: Despite the wretched tour of Zimbabwe, and the criticism heaped upon him, your team appears in good fettle.

MA: I am. I have not enjoyed the way things have gone on the field, but away from the cricket I am enjoying myself, as always.

MH: Touring is hard enough work when you're winning. How do you cope when the team is losing?

MA: I enjoy touring, full stop. Always have done. You enjoy the company of your team-mates and the challenge of the cricket, which takes a large part of your time, and you don't take everything so seriously. There is a danger of getting wrapped up in yourself, but I try to keep a sense of proportion and a clear per-



The captain's lot is not all misery, as he tells Michael Henderson

spective. Failure is never fatal. Success is not final. There's a cliché for you!

MH: There have been some rude things written and said about this team and this tour. Does that hurt?

MA: The coverage has been a bit abusive, but, being away from home, we don't see a great deal of it. We tend to hear second-hand about the bad pieces. Somebody will say "so-and-so has written such-and-such" but by and large the day-to-day stuff is hidden from us, and a good job too. It is so much easier if you don't read the papers. If you do it becomes more difficult to

endure, which I think is far from the truth. But once you have that image it is hard to lose. That's life.

MH: In Zimbabwe the England team was perceived as detached, to the point of being rude. Do the players lack curiosity about the places they visit?

MA: The first part of that is nonsense. We had one day off in Zimbabwe, when everybody went to Victoria Falls except those who had already been there, and we had a five-hour journey to Harare. It would have been nice to get about more, to see places, but the itinerary didn't allow us any spare time. It simply wasn't possible. As for rude behaviour, people jumped on the bandwagon after the first week. There was a private party at the British High Commissioner's residence at 5.30pm on our first day in Harare, a day when we had fitted in two training sessions. I don't think you can expect people to be the life and soul of the party in those circumstances. The journalists had been invited to a private function and should not have been looking for a story. I don't think we were rude to the locals. I'm not sure there was a massive amount of hospitality offered to us in any case.

A team is made up of different characters. If the likes of Crawley and Mullally enjoy spending an evening in their room playing their guitars then some people might frown, but players relax in their own ways, and it is not for me as captain to tell them otherwise.

MH: Being England captain is almost a thankless task. Can anybody be groomed adequately for it?

MH: What the new board might do, if they identify somebody early enough and realise that he could become England captain, is help him with regard to media work, and how to deal with the demands of the job. A management course might be helpful, too. Some people might not get anything out of it, but there again, others might.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

MH: You're a private person in a very public job. How do you handle so much scrutiny, and mockery?

MA: You come to terms with it. As captain, it goes with the territory. I have never been good at using the press as an image-making machine for myself. I know I have this image as somebody who is grumpy, and down and mis-

erly to people who have been critical of you. If you do speak to them, you speak to them in a different way. The best way is, not to read too much, so you can treat people as you would face to face. But it doesn't always happen like that.

</div



FOOTBALL: MANAGERLESS NEWCASTLE THROW AWAY TWO-GOAL LEAD IN TYPICAL CAVALIER STYLE

# Keegan gone but melody lingers on

Aston Villa ..... 2  
 Newcastle United ..... 2  
 By ROB HUGHES  
 FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

**SPORTING** life would be as grey as the West Midlands weather on Saturday if one could erase a man's style, his spirit, his errors the moment he turns his back.

There was, therefore, something reassuring about the performance of Newcastle United at Villa Park. Like magpies, they stole into a two-goal lead, they surrendered it, they could have lost a penalty, and they ended up flying forward in pursuit of victory.

King Kevin has gone, but the melody lingers on. Whether or not the Newcastle chairman, Sir John Hall, through purse and persuasion, can tonight change the mind of Bobby Robson, talk him into renegeing on his promise to stay at Barcelona, the truth remains that Keegan's legacy is a flawed one. It has, despite the injuries to Ginola, Asprilla and Ferdinand, an imbalance, a preference from Keegan's own heart that favours attacking flair and is almost myopic towards defensive solidity.

Whoever takes over will have to rectify this weakness, starting with the goalkeeper, and continuing with the inadequacies of the pivotal defender, Peacock.

The way Aston Villa clawed their way back was engineered in the dressing-room — a half-time switch of tactics by Brian Little, the manager, who, just because Newcastle may have wanted him, has profited by a new five-year contract from Doug Ellis, the chairman.

Whether the chairman or the manager were comfortable about that after 20 minutes on Saturday is another matter. For, in the sixteenth minute, Staunton was woefully exposed by Shearer. When Beardsley, who yet could be groomed as a future guide and coach to Newcastle, released the ball forward into the inside left channel, it was barely an invitation.

It was Staunton's ball, yet he allowed Shearer to outpace him to muscle him off it, to make another few yards and then with breathtaking self-belief to drive home his shot, low and hard and just inside



Yorke, the Villa striker, shoots beyond Hislop, the Newcastle goalkeeper, but wide when given the chance to win a fluctuating match

the penalty box, beneath the dive of Hislop:

It was Shearer's eighteenth goal of the season, and what nonsense — some reporters spread when they suggest that Juventus are seeking an exchange deal, taking Shearer to Turin and sending Alessandro Del Piero to Tyneside. Shearer is the most potent symbol of Newcastle and of the English game. Marcello Lippi, the Juventus coach, may covet such power and industry, but Shearer couldn't play for him this season in the European Cup. So forget any deal.

We could not forget Shearer. His presence, his touch, was blamed for the slip on the turf that cost Bremhill a second goal in the 21st minute. To be sure, when he had the ball

safely in his hands, the goalkeeper was lightly touched from behind by the England centre forward. However, his standing foot fell from beneath him two yards further on, and when he attempted to kick the ball, it went to Clark, who promptly, splendidly, kicked it straight back over his head, over Staunton, into the unguarded net.

The Geordie fanatics grouped around a banner that read "Thanks for the memories, Kev". Had changed their tune. "Terry Mac" they chanted, to the acting manager, McDermott. But he, emotionally drained by the week, the right-hand man to all Keegan's work, was summing up correctly: "Nothing's changed, you score, we score ... It was

the same as when Kevin was here."

The very same. Had Newcastle reached half-time safe in their two-goal lead, the new era might have been launched. Instead, Albert tripped over the ball, Yorke took advantage and was then

body-checked by Peacock. It was five minutes before the interval, five seconds from calamity. Southgate took the free kick, Albert headed it to his right, Wright side-footed the ball back across the goal for Yorke to score.

After half-time, with Southampton moved back from midfield to police Shearer and with Staunton galvanic in midfield, the tactical change put Villa in the ascendancy. The equaliser came after 51 minutes, the interpassing between Staunton and Yorke cutting through some horrific defending before Milosevic claimed his fourth goal from five matches, preying on the loose ball when Hislop had done well to parry a shot from Staunton. Now the Hult End teased their visitors:

"Keegan's playing golf." Yorke could have had three goals. Instead he had to be taken off with a thigh strain after twice shooting wide, and, crucially, hitting a penalty feebly and so close to Hislop that the big goalkeeper was able to block it and the rebound. The penalty had come when Albert, unaware of the fact that Milosevic seldom shoots with his right foot, recklessly tackled him, and missed the ball.

In the end a draw was the right result. And, long after it, McDermott was beginning and ending every sentence with the name of Kevin, but his pal and mentor had gone, a public man suddenly no more visible than a swallow in midwinter.

ASTON VILLA (4-4-2): M Bremhill — U Bremhill, S Staunton, C Clark, F Naylor (sub: R Schmalz, 33min), T Sherwood (sub: G Fenlon, 88), G Milosevic, A Wright — T Johnson (sub: G Yeomans) (sub: Jevons, 68), S Wright (sub: D McAllister, 71), S Yorke (sub: K Gillespie, 11), B Hislop — S Weston, D Peacock, P Albert, J Elliott — P Greenwood. — A Shearer (sub: G Poll).

Blackburn Rovers ..... 4

Coventry City ..... 0

By PETER BALL

SO WHO needs Sven Goran Eriksson? On Saturday Blackburn demolished Coventry City, their fourth win in five games extending their run since Tony Parkes took over as caretaker manager to two defeats in 12 matches — and one of those came in his first game.

Sven Eriksson is too far ahead, we're not even thinking about him," Henning Berg, the Blackburn defender, said. "Tony Parkes is the manager, and he's done a brilliant job. He says the right things, he gets us motivated, he keeps it simple, and there aren't many team talks."

It is not just the team's record at present, but the way Parkes has got them playing. Blackburn may have made the most inspired internal promotion since Bob Paisley replaced Bill Shankly at Anfield.

Strachan was also, perhaps, caught out tactically. With Whelan suspended and aware that Blackburn had played with Sutton on his own up front, Strachan moved Dublin to his favoured centre forward position and played with two central defenders.

Parkes won the tactical battle, Gallacher, who scored the second goal with a crashing shot, and Wilcox quickly pushed up to become out-and-out wingers. But, as Strachan said: "It doesn't matter what formation you play if you can't pass the ball to one another, and lack commitment."

Under their caretaker manager, Blackburn have both — and tactical nous, too. "To score four goals against Coventry City and to jump above them was quite satisfactory," Parkes said. "Ten men can make it very difficult for you, but we coped with it very well. Although we played well, our performance at Everton is still our best display of the season so far. It's another win and another three points in our fight to stay in the division."

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-5-1-1): T Powers (sub: H Bond, C Hendy, G L Searns, K Galagher (sub: G Fenlon, 88), T Sherwood (sub: G Milosevic, 88), G Milosevic, A Wright — T Johnson (sub: G Yeomans) (sub: Jevons, 68), S Wright (sub: D McAllister, 71), B Hislop — S Weston, D Peacock, P Albert, J Elliott — P Greenwood. — A Shearer (sub: G Poll).

Shearer's departure may

have thrown the team into disarray at the start of the season, but Sutton is thriving in his absence. His two goals

## Chairman's casting vote leaves Robson on edge

Middlesbrough ..... 0  
 Southampton ..... 1  
 By SIMON BARNES

NEVER mind policemen. It is when self-made multimillionaires start looking like schoolboys that you know you are getting old. I didn't know he was a millionaire, though. The Middlesbrough manager, Bryan Robson, mainly assuming that we all somehow knew, simply called him Steve. I had to fall back on my skills in investigative journalism.

Shiny-faced and curly-haired, he was so sincere that first I took him for something in public relations. Then I gathered that he was in the middle of giving the manager a vote of confidence. This would be an impudence in a PR boy. Brilliantly, I deduced that, strange though it seemed, this was the chairman.

And I was right. This was Steve Gibson, 32, grown-up, hard-nosed, haulage mogul and boisterous football suitor. The pair had taken the unusual step of addressing the press before the match had even begun. They did so in order to stress their overwhelming love for each other. Some rotten newspapers said that Robson had offered his resignation. Outrageous! We cannot allow such stories to continue!

They left, more or less arm-in-arm, beneath a hail of confetti and their football team then proceeded to make a complete hash of the ensuing match. The near-40-million quidsworth of exotic talent looked clueless and, for that matter, spineless. A soft touch: odd that one of the hardest men to have kicked a football in recent years could produce so hapless a side.

They lost to Southampton and so dived to the bottom of the FA Carling Premiership. There is no ducking the matter, it's hiding it behind loving smiles: this is a truly terrible result, the worst so far in a truly terrible season. We often consider, in cup games or watching Wimbledon, the great footballing mystery in which the team is greater than the sum of its parts. Middlesbrough lack this elevating

talent for multiplication. Instead, they have subtraction. Or perhaps division. A team so much less than the sum of its high-priced, and hand-picked parts has never before been seen in English football.

The case for the defence says that they have done all right in cups. They even beat Liverpool in the Coca-Cola Cup in midweek. But to call a team "a good cup side" is like calling a rugby union man "a good sevens player", or a cricketer "a good one-day player". That is to say, not quite the real thing. Killer stat: Middlesbrough have scored 26 goals in six cup games this season; in 22 Premiership matches they have scored 25.

Southampton, another struggling team led by a former player of legendary hardness, Graeme Souness,

Spun out Le Tissier on the bench, played one man up and was lucky to find a referee prepared to let niggling fouls go and linemen happy to enter with his defenders into the conspiracy of officiate. That said, Middlesbrough were hopeless in their attempts to solve these problems.

The goal came after a disputed corner. Players lost concentration in their sense of grievance. Monkou's header brought a fine instinctive save from Blackmore, but Blackmore was not the goalkeeper. He was sent off and Magilton, going for the blast technique

with the penalty, bulged the net satisfactorily.

Southampton have found some incipient vertebrate forms amid the primal slime of their relegation struggle. They will learn from this game more about themselves and about each other. Middlesbrough learnt nothing.

The team is filled with talent and bad vibes. Middlesbrough could yet do the traditional double of the candle-floss side, a trip to Wembley and relegation.

Surely it would be more shocking if Robson had not offered to stand down. Only a man not given to gross self-delusion could fail to see that four wins in 22 will not do.

And Robson is an honourable man.

Extraordinary as it may seem, his dream continues, with wild, desperate stubbornness. Another day, another foreign star. At least this one is a defender. He is Gianfranco Ferrara, a centre back. He will be signed from Internazionale for £2.7 million if he passes his medical today. Robson hopes to have him signed up in time for the match next weekend against Sheffield Wednesday. Interesting week tomorrow. Middlesbrough face a heavy hearing for their failure to ricer their fixture against Blackburn Rovers. They could be punished by a loss of points.

Another of football's eternal mysteries is the question of what a manager actually does. My theory is that his function is the same as that of a fuse in an electrical circuit. Its sole purpose is to be changed when the lights blow up.

Few managers survive such results as Robson has been producing; fewer still survive a vote of confidence as whole-hearted as that of Robson's. The mad, brave experiment is at the point of crisis. Still, there are consolations. This could be the finest side the Nationwide League has seen.

MIDDLESBROUGH (3-5-2): G Welsh — N Cox, S Vickery, D Whyte — C Blackmore, C Leyton, S Gibson, J Hart, J Emerson (sub: M Cook, 88), P Moran, C Pennington — K Reardon, F Reardon.

SOUTHAMPTON (2-5-1-0): M Taylor — M Benito, K Monks, U van Gaal — M Robinson (sub: S Charlton, 46), J Magilton, J McPhee, J McPhee, A Johnson, E Berndsen (sub: M Loizou, 88) — E Delmastro (sub: P Stiles, 82).

Robson: desperate

## Caught up in the business of stress management

STEVE McMANAMAN



on pressure in the modern-day game

Kevin Keegan resigned as manager of Newcastle United, because he apparently no longer enjoyed the intense pressure the job placed on him. My first reaction to the news was one of shock, my second was that Keegan will not be the last man to go under such circumstances. Pressure? It's a difficult concept for many people because they don't consider the job Keegan did as stressful, as anything but, the best job in the world, in fact. But to begin to appreciate the pressure he was under, just consider the reaction to his announcement that he was quitting.

The world went mad for a day. Every news programme on television and radio seemed to be crammed with details of the resignation and the newspapers seemed to run special editions on the subject — just as they did when the war ended.

The news completely overshadowed a key speech by Tony Blair, got Richard Branson off the front pages and relegated to a minor spot Tony Bullimore, the yachtsman who had been missing for five days.

That is how important football is nowadays and how important Keegan's job was.

Another of football's eternal mysteries is the question of what a manager actually does. My theory is that his function is the same as that of a fuse in an electrical circuit. Its sole purpose is to be changed when the lights blow up.

Such an intense spotlight is pressure. He had to be careful in every single thing he did and he had to win things. If you don't like it, then you have to get out because there is no hiding. And it is only going to get worse.

Football is a treat. The European championship made the sport sexy and everybody wants a piece of it. Managers and players at the big clubs are under a pres-

sure, too, simply because the sport is so high-profile. Multiply that by about a hundred and you begin to understand why Keegan began to turn his back on it. Not only did he have to win things, he had to run a massive company, handle just about everything at the club.

That is why I believe it can only get worse for managers and more will follow Keegan through the revolving door. With clubs becoming big business propositions, there is so much money at stake. That means even more roles for a manager, even higher stakes and, inevitably, even more pressure.

I have always said that I would like to stay in football after I finish playing, but not as a manager if I had to do everything that managers are forced to cope with. I think there is a strong case to be made for splitting the job up into separate roles for different people.

A manager has to be a financial expert, a PR expert, a coaching expert and an expert in psychology. He also has to build a winning team. Judging by Keegan's reaction, he tried to take all those roles on and couldn't cope. I wouldn't be interested in the financial side, the contracts and fees, I think that must evolve into a role for someone else, perhaps similar to the model they have on the Continent.

If Newcastle had done that, then perhaps Keegan could have avoided some of the pressures and stayed with the club. Mind you, he would still have had to produce a winning team.

I know all about those pressures at the moment. We have been criticised heavily at Liverpool because of our form over Christmas, especially our form at home, and we are still top of the Premiership. It's true, we have not played as well as we would have liked at late, but the time to judge is at the end of the season. We believe we will still get it right and if we don't, believe me, it will not be for want of desire.

IN THIS MONTH'S ISSUE

# 'I want to manage Liverpool'

John Barnes on following Roy Evans

Everything I've done since leaving United has been to prove Alex Ferguson wrong

Paul McGrath gets even



THE ESSENTIAL FOOTBALL MONTHLY  
FEBRUARY ISSUE ON SALE NOW



## FOOTBALL

# Albion pay the penalty for ignoring aerial threat

Wolverhampton W 2  
West Bromwich Albion 0

By RICHARD HOBSON

**WOLVERHAMPTON** Wanderers made their concession to comedy when Sir Jack Hayward, their philanthropic owner, allowed filming of parts of the final episode of *Only Fools and Horses* on the driveway of his mansion in Sussex. Yesterday, his side got on with the serious business and, as West Bromwich Albion chugged along like the Trotters' Reliant Robin, they purred as smoothly as a Rolls-Royce.

One game does not a season make, as Mark McGhee, the manager, emphasised afterwards. His caution was understandable in that no future opposition, surely, will be quite as compliant as Albion. It can only remain to be seen if the commitment prevalent in Wolves' play from the first whistle to the last owed itself to the fact that this is, without doubt, the most passionate derby outside the FA Carling Premiership.

On the other hand, McGhee may have been right all along to claim that once a harrowing run of injury problems is behind him, which is almost the case now, Wolves have the beating of anybody in the Nationwide League first division. All will become clearer within the next month when they meet the three sides directly above them, Bolton Wanderers, Barnsley and Sheffield United.

"We have had a difficult time but we are still in a good position and we have to believe that we have a decent chance of promotion," McGhee said.

In the build-up to this game, Arthur Mann, the Albion's assistant manager, explained the approach of the visitors. They would aim to frustrate Wolves to the point where the passionate home support, who

have seen their side succumb six times at Molineux this season, would turn against them in frustration.

So much for theory. Wolves went ahead in the third minute and, for the remaining 80, the crowd of 37,326, the best of the season here, kicked up an almighty racket in between the odd Mexican wave and conga.

No adjective can be sufficiently harsh to describe the Albion defending. It was not simply the fact that they conceded two soft goals, but that their downfall mirrored the situation in the corresponding game at the Hawthorns last September when they lost 4-2 and failed to deal with the aerial threat of Iwan Roberts.

This time, both Roberts and Dean Richards were granted free headers. "One of these days we will give Wolves a game instead of giving them the game," Alan Buckley, the Albion manager, said afterwards.

The first goal stemmed from an error from Paul Crichton, the Albion goalkeeper, whose kicking through suggested that he had moulded his boots around a 50p piece. Wolves capitalised from his first mistake to earn a corner and Steve Frogatt centred from the right, Richards met the ball powerfully from eight yards.

Wolves doubled their lead in the 37th minute with a move that began when Steve Bull dispossessed Ian Hamilton near the halfway line. Neil Entwistle found Jamie Smith along the right and this time Roberts checked his stride and arched his neck before injecting sufficient to beat Crichton.

**QUEENS PARK RANGERS** 4-2-4 (S. Watson, 1; S. Davis, 2; D. Hendrie, K. Doherty, 2; J. Hayes, G. Thomas, 2; C. Agius, 1; P. Spencer, 1; A. Thompson, 1; 2 yell. cards) — Subs: N. Henson (for D. Hendrie), 45; P. Murphy, 70; R. Evans, 75; D. Gibson, 85; J. Hayes, 85; A. Hunt, 85; P. Hetheridge (sub: P. Taylor, 45). Referee: E. Wallerstein.

Bull, the Wolverhampton striker, adopts a horizontal position in the 2-0 victory at Molineux yesterday

## Managing to make the most of it

Andrew Longmore watches Alan Buckley treading carefully through The Hawthorns

**A**lan Buckley could be forgiven a momentary lapse of memory last week. "Kevin who?" he asked. He had other things on his mind than the likes of Kevin Keegan, more mundane things, like his left back's dodgy hamstring and the bus bag that had stricken his midfield. Then there was the little matter of Midlands bragging rights, revenge for the 4-2 thrashing suffered at the hands of their local rivals earlier in the season.

If all that was not enough, the West Bromwich Albion manager had the words of his chairman ringing in his ears, not the dreaded voice of confidence, something much worse than that. Money. "The most momentous day in the history of the club," Tony Hale had said when the flotation of Albion on the Alternative Investment Market, one of the more unlikely City moves of the season, had been sanctioned last year.

Wolves doubled their lead in the 37th minute with a move that began when Steve Bull dispossessed Ian Hamilton near the halfway line. Neil Entwistle found Jamie Smith along the right and this time Roberts checked his stride and arched his neck before injecting sufficient to beat Crichton.

By the end of the first week's trading, the shares had more than doubled in value to £220 and the club had generated £16 million. But Buckley did not need Keegan's hasty exit to tell him what sort of financial road those figures

can lead to. Probably not Marcella and the golfcourses of Spain.

There aren't many who can afford to walk away from a job like Newcastle, are there?" he said. "If they did, then they would get home and the wife would ask them how the mortgage was going to be paid." If there is a hint of bitterness in the remark, Buckley says envy does not come into the equation.

"I'd love to have £15 million to spend on Alan Shearer," he said. "But the more money you have to spend, the more pressure there is on you. Then it's up to the individual how they cope. The main pressure is the pressure we put on ourselves. It's pride in what you do. Whoever you are manager of, you want to do the best you can. It's just relative whether it's Newcastle or Walsall."

Yet, in his quieter moments, he must reflect that the real skill of management is tested far more closely in persuading average players to perform above themselves at shoddy

lower league venues than in sifting through an embarrassment of riches in Shearer, Ferdinand and Asprilla.

There are three points at stake this Sunday," Buckley said last week of the game against Wolverhampton Wanderers yesterday. "We desperately want to take them. It's a high-pressure game because feelings run very high between both sets of supporters."

The theme of Buckley's team talk was less tactical than emotional: embarrassment, pride, inner belief, that sort of thing.

**A**s a decent manager, adept at manufacturing working machines from unpromising pieces of scrap, first at Walsall then Grimsby Town, Buckley is quite familiar with the insecurities of the territory. He was sacked by helicopter at Walsall.

The owner, Terry Ramsden, buzzed in one morning to have a chat. By nightfall, Buckley was clearing his desk. Walsall were sixth in the

table at the time and had scored 90 goals the previous season. "I didn't deserve that," he said, as if football had anything to do with justice.

Last season, he had to endure the nightmare of all managers: 13 defeats in a row. It did not help that, by the end of it, the whole nation was joining in the count. A year on, Buckley suffers another bout of amnesia.

"What run was that? The two in 19 we lost in the second half of the season? We lost two in the first 13 and then 13 on the trot. But I never changed what we did. I worked with the same players pretty much the same." And Kevin Keegan thought he had problems: "I've been a manager for 17 years, since I was 28. These things happen."

These things happen. It is a fair epitaph for the unsung manager. Yesterday was just another day, too, a defeat, not a drubbing. Buckley stood at the edge of the dugout gesturing furiously and vainly to his players with one hand, resting his other on the top of his Perspex cage. Keegan was probably on the 2nd hole when Wolves scored their first, just completing the 6th when the second went in.

## City's passion points way ahead for Clark

Manchester City ..... 1  
Crystal Palace ..... 1

By OLIVER HOLT

WHEN Frank Clark left Nottingham Forest last month, he said that a new man in charge would give the club a "kick-start". When he took over at Manchester City, the same principle should have worked in his favour, too. But things are different at Maine Road. For a long time now, the usual principles have not applied there.

The new man got a standing ovation when he walked onto the pitch before the game, but there have been so many new men this season they could start up a male crèche and an ironing school for reconstructed husbands. "They have been having injections of new blood a bit too often here," Clark said after the game. "It must be routine for them now."

They have played under five different managers at Maine Road this season, but try as they might to raise their game for Clark, the constant changes have crippled City's creativity. Only passion remains. So desperate were they to hold on to the last vestige of inspiration that, after Kinkade was taken off on a stretcher with a thigh injury late in the first half, they tried to coax him into walking it off on the touchline. The Georgian just hung on a pair of supportive shoulders, unable to move.

He managed to limp back on in the second half and duly helped to break the deadlock. City have scored so many own goals off the field this season it was about time that they benefited from one on the pitch, and Tuncay did just that, with the same players pretty much the same. And Kevin Keegan thought he had problems: "I've been a manager for 17 years, since I was 28. These things happen."

These things happen. It is a fair epitaph for the unsung manager. Yesterday was just another day, too, a defeat, not a drubbing. Buckley stood at the edge of the dugout gesturing furiously and vainly to his players with one hand, resting his other on the top of his Perspex cage. Keegan was probably on the 2nd hole when Wolves scored their first, just completing the 6th when the second went in.

doing something wrong. But we think we can do something to improve the situation. The size of the crowds here was one of the main reasons I took the job and if we can get something going here that will be an even bigger asset."

The Palace manager, Dave Bassett, who spent much of the early part of the season denying vehemently that he had ever been approached by City in the wake of Alan Ball's departure, used his post-match press conference to detail why he had not taken the job when it was offered to him.

"It wasn't that I was frightened of it," he said. "I just did not feel it was right for Dave Bassett at that time. What has gone on in the past has been a disgrace. The club has been



Clark problems

mismanaged because it should have Premiership status, but some things have changed at Maine Road since then. It was the first time my missus had seen the stadium and she said: 'God, why did you turn it down?'

Perhaps it was something to do with the weight of expectation, something that a sanguine man like Clark may be better able to cope with. He even felt comfortable invoking the spirit of the man who last got it right, Malcolm Allison. "I was thinking of walking on the pitch wearing a fedora," he said, "but I thought that might be a bit obvious."

**MANCHESTER CITY** (3-4-1-2) M. Morgan, K. Symons, J. Brightwell, R. Ingram (sub: L. Clegg); S. Tindall, S. Durnford, S. Lomas, E. McDowell, N. Henry — G. Nineteen (sub: M. Kewell, 80) — G. O'Brien (sub: D. McDonald, 73); J. de Zoer — S. Chilton (sub: N. McDonald, 77); A. de Zoer — N. Eaden, N. Redfearn, C. Marcille, J. Boscawen, A. Moses — P. Wilkinson (sub: A. Lockett, 78); N. Hendrie (sub: C. Finch).

**CRYSTAL PALACE** (4-4-2) C. Day — M. Edwards, A. Roberts, D. Tutt, D. Gordon — D. Hopkin (sub: L. McDonald, 78), G. Nash, C. Vass, A. Cygan (sub: L. Andersen, 71) — N. Shepperd, B. Dyer (sub: C. Wilkes).

## Hateley leaves an indelible mark

Queens Park Rangers 3  
Barnsley 1

By BRIAN GLANVILLE

**THE** Queens Park Rangers crowd has what might be called a love-Hateley relationship with the former England centre forward. A week earlier, he had come on as a late substitute, when the FA Cup tie against Huddersfield Town seemed lost, and scored a breathless equaliser.

After which, he went to the touchline and ironically cupped his ear, as though listening for applause. He got plenty on Saturday when, a few minutes from the final whistle, he left the field after a masterly performance.

He did not score any of QPR's goals. John Spencer incisively got them all, but it was Hateley who first carried the battle to Barnsley. "A very important part he played for the team," Stewart Houston,

the QPR manager, said, "and that pleased me more than anything. After his goal last week, I decided to give him a run from the start and, overall, he did very well."

The game was only a few minutes old when Hateley nodded back a cross by Graham, which might have brought a goal, and then made Watson, Barnsley's efficient goalkeeper, dive full-stretch with a left-footed shot, conjured out of nothing.

In the tenth minute of the second half, Hateley gave Graham a glorious long ball, which led to another dangerous cross; then, when Brevet crossed from the left, he got in a header which was again saved by Watson.

As the first half progressed, Barnsley, a team intent on playing constructive football, increasingly came into the game, exploring spaces on the right, left by a three-man QPR defence that tended to get pulled into the middle.

Hendrie showed his skills, the twinkling Marcella caused more and more trouble, striking the bar with a header from Bosanic's cross, but when Barnsley went ahead on 40 minutes, it still came as a surprise.

After the referee had finally shoved back the Rangers wall, Redfern struck a tremendous free kick low into the right-hand corner of the net.

It was almost half-time when Rangers equalised. Sinclair, who would soar in the second half, cleverly headed Murray crossed to the far post, where Spencer, with great virtuosity, got round the ball and struck his shot past the opposition keeper.

"It was really a kick in the lower regions from my point of view," Danny Wilson, the Barnsley manager, said, "losing a goal so late in the first half, and I think it gave them a big lift in the second half."

After 71 minutes, Davis, the Barnsley centre back, was

carried off with a broken leg and, this, left Wilson caused Barnsley "to defend too deep". Eight minutes later, Spencer scored his second with a powerful header from a cross by Brazier, who had already gone down on the left.

Spencer's third goal arrived in injury time. Roberts, the goalkeeper, thumped the ball upfield, Spencer got hold of it, cheekily rounded Shirliff and stroked his shot home.

"He's a team player," Houston said, "and can score goals as well. He brings other people into the game, gets in some good positions, and he's cool when he gets there. I thought it was a cracking game, by the way," Wilson said. And so it was.

**QUEENS PARK RANGERS** (3-4-3) A. Morgan, A. Watson, S. Kinsella, R. Howell — M. Graham, P. Murray (sub: A. Impye, 75min), G. Peacock, T. Sinclair, M. Brazier — M. Hedges, S. Wilson, D. Williams, S. Tindall, J. de Zoer — S. Chilton (sub: N. McDonald, 77); A. de Zoer — N. Eaden, N. Redfearn, C. Marcille, J. Boscawen, A. Moses — P. Wilkinson (sub: A. Lockett, 78); N. Hendrie (sub: C. Finch).

**BARNESLEY** (4-4-2) C. Day — M. Edwards, A. Roberts, D. Tutt, D. Gordon — D. Hopkin (sub: L. McDonald, 78), G. Nash, C. Vass, A. Cygan (sub: L. Andersen, 71) — N. Shepperd, B. Dyer (sub: C. Wilkes).

**CITY HOPE REFEREE WILL TAKE A DIFFERENT VIEW**

Bristol City ..... 2  
Burnley ..... 1

By RUSSELL KEMPSON

**MARK HALSEY**, a Football League referee in his first season, should wait with some trepidation at his home this week. At some stage, a video tape will arrive bearing a Bristol postmark. It is probable that, after viewing it, he will concede an error.

Halsey, 35, sent off Stuart Naylor, the Bristol City goalkeeper, in the 76th minute at Ashton Gate on Saturday. Naylor's offence, bringing down Kim Nagan, the Burnley substitute, in full flight was deemed serious foul play.

It sparked a furious finale to an invigorating Nationwide League second division tussle, with Timion, the City winger, taking over Naylor's jersey. However, though Burnley battered away, they rarely troubled him. City repelled all invaders and moved up to fourth place in the table.

Halsey seemed so wrong. Any contact between Naylor and Nagan was surely ad-

dental and, anyway, Nagan's run was taking him more towards the corner flag than the danger area. Carey, the City defender, was also behind Naylor, should Nagan have managed to fashion the most improbable of shots from the most impossible of angles before the ball ran out of play.

"In my opinion, he got it wrong," Joe Jordan, the City manager, said. "I spoke with him afterwards and he said 'send me the video'. We will do. There have been several errors brave enough to change their minds and I hope this is one of them." Parker homecoming proves leisurely affair

Fulham ..... 6  
Darlington ..... 0

By IVO TENNANT

IT IS ten years since the starry lights of Loftus Road drew Paul Parker away from Fulham, his first club. The specific idea behind his return on Saturday was that he should give the young players, and particularly the defence, the benefit of his considerable experience. This proved to be quite unnecessary.

Parker hardly needed to kick the ball, still less venture upfield or bawl out any of his colleagues. Fulham won, and won handsomely. No matter that they were playing a team with three forwards for the first time this season; their goal tally could well have run into double figures.

Scott scored once, and could well have had two more. Connery, the leading scorer in the Nationwide League third division, almost hit the corner flag when given as straightforward a chance as he will receive all season. He, then missed another decent opportunity.

**SCOTT** (R-2); P. Parker (sub: M. Thomas, T. Hayes, D. Cuthbert, P. McLean, R. Carpenter, S. Taylor, P. Scott (sub: D. Freeman, 69), R. Harten — G. Connery (sub: P. Parker, 82), M. Connery — D. Edwards (sub: M. Edwards, 85); N. Lomax (sub: M. Edwards, 85); C. Conroy, S. Lovell, S. Shaw, P. Brunt, M. Oliver, W. Byrne (sub: M. Barnard, 69) — D. Roberts, R. Blisset, G. Naylor (sub: G. Twynham, 69).

Reference: G. Polley.





Beal's day  
helps put  
Leicester  
under

## RUGBY UNION

# Welsh confidence not dented by tenacious Eagles

Wales ..... 34  
United States ..... 14

By GERALD DAVIES

DOUBTLESS there were only a few who left Cardiff Arms Park with any sanguine expectations of Wales' chances of being among the leaders of the five nations' championship, which begins for them at Murrayfield on Saturday. This, however, would be an unfair view and a premature judgment.

Expectations before the match were too high to begin with. Anticipating an edifying movement against a visiting side that is making only tentative steps in a sport that is hardly their forte, was not entirely realistic.

A bagful of tries was on the cards, it was thought. But the Eagles, like other developing rugby countries, are catching up and have found that stiff resistance is the key; a well-organised defence can make quite an impression. Wales, in front of only 13,500, were in control for large swathes of this game in terms of possession

and territory, but failed to accumulate a large score because of unforgiving tackling. The Eagles pursued their tactics like demons.

For those who felt denied the pleasure of a massive Wales victory, Jack Clark, the Eagles manager, offered some consolation. "We're not a fun side to play against," he said.

"Teams are expected to score eight tries and more. When this does not happen they are criticised. We prepared well today. What we lack is precision. That is our future aim — to be more precise. At the moment we are a blood and guts team."

Clark yesterday suspended Wilkerson, the flanker, for four weeks for kicking Jenkins, the Wales hooker.

Apart from the first five minutes of the second half, when the visitors were only three points behind, the home team was never in danger of losing. In the fifth minute Bacheler scored the best try of the afternoon. Lyb emerged on his own ten-metre line to begin a combined movement that saw the scrum half pass for a superb try to bring the score to 17-14.

ANDREW REDINGTON/ALLSPORT



Evans, the Wales wing, is brought down by Hightower as he tries to burst through

Wales, however, had dominated the lineout, through Llewellyn and the scrums. They were always likely to win the loose ball, where Charvis had an effective match.

Wales' weakness was that

they were unable to create enough chances to break cleanly away. There were too many 'body checks' and charges. On the two occasions when they did get away, they did not score.

Howley broke clear to give Scott Quinnell a run but the No 8 chose to ignore his support and run a step too far.

Gareth Thomas on the wing should also have crossed the line but he, too, missed the opportunity. Had these chances been taken, Wales might have grown in confidence. Instead they stammered.

After six internationals, the Wales selectors must now realise there is a good team to be drawn from the players they have seen. To arrange the correct combination at half-back and in the second and back rows is their problem.

Equally difficult will be to name the captain. Chosen as the original leader, Jonathon Humphreys, the hooker, could not play because of a seven-day suspension. His concerns were realised. A strong case could now be made to make Scott Gibbs the captain. Not only did he play well and score a brilliant try, but his forthright and practical assessment of his team's performance, made eminent if for the players, uncomfortable sense. He looked a comfortable leader.

Thomas and Alexander had exchanged penalties before Evans got the first of his two tries and Gibbs had scythed through the middle which left him untouched for his score. Thomas converted both. Alexander's two penalties gave him a total of 152 points in his career and makes him a record scorer for his country.

Bacheler closed the gap but Wales stretched their lead with a Thomas penalty. Evans's second try and a penalty try. Thomas converted both.

SCORERS: Wales: Evans (2), Gibbs (penalty), Conversions: A Thomas (4). United States: Bacheler (try), Penalties: Alexander (5).

WALES: J. Thomas (Cardiff); I. Evans (Llanelli), A. Ballian (Cardiff), S. Gibbs (Llanelli), Captain; G. Thomas (Bridgend); A. Alexander (Cardiff), M. Wilkins (Cardiff), R. Hightower (Cardiff), G. Charvis (Cardiff), B. Bacheler (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Cardiff), D. Young (Cardiff), C. Chevallier (Cardiff), G. Thomas (Cardiff), S. Quinnell (Cardiff), S. Quinnell (Cardiff), S. Cuthbert (Richmond). Howley replaced by P. John (Pontypool), 70min. Chevallier replaced by C. Gidman (Cardiff), 70min. Gibbs temporarily replaced by J. Davies (Cardiff), 65-70.

UNITED STATES: M. Williams (Gentlemen of Aspen), V. Williams (Riverside, New York), R. L. Cole (Riverside, New York), R. Hightower (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Cardiff), D. Young (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Denver, Colorado), A. Bacheler (Cardiff), R. L. Miller (Denver), T. Gibbs (Gentlemen of Aspen), J. L. Clegg (Cardiff), J. Williams (Gentlemen of Aspen), J. Wilkins (Bolton, Lancs), C. Vogel (Cardiff), O. Lyle (Cardiff), R. Luskington (Pontypool). Williams replaced by D. Morrow (Gentlemen of Aspen), 84min. Gibbs replaced by J. Davies (Gentlemen of Aspen), 70min.

Referee: J. Meyne (Ireland)

Wales, however, had dominated the lineout, through Llewellyn and the scrums. They were always likely to win the loose ball, where Charvis had an effective match.

Wales' weakness was that

they were unable to create enough chances to break cleanly away. There were too many 'body checks' and charges. On the two occasions when they did get away, they did not score.

Howley broke clear to give

Scott Quinnell a run but the

No 8 chose to ignore his sup-

port and run a step too far.

Gareth Thomas on the wing

should also have crossed the

line but he, too, missed the

opportunity. Had these

chances been taken, Wales

might have grown in confi-

dence. Instead they stammered.

After six internationals, the

Wales selectors must now

realise there is a good team

to be drawn from the players

they have seen. To arrange

the correct combination at

half-back and in the second

and back rows is their prob-

lem.

Thomas and Alexander had

exchanged penalties before

Evans got the first of his two

tries and Gibbs had scythed

through the middle which left

him untouched for his score.

Thomas converted both. Alex-

ander's two penalties gave him

a total of 152 points in his car-

eer and makes him a record scor-

er for his country.

Bacheler closed the gap but

Wales stretched their lead with

a Thomas penalty. Evans's sec-

ond try and a penalty try. Thomas converted both.

SCORERS: Wales: Evans (2), Gibbs (penalty), Conversions: A Thomas (4). United States: Bacheler (try), Penalties: Alexander (5).

WALES: J. Thomas (Cardiff); I. Evans (Llanelli), A. Ballian (Cardiff), S. Gibbs (Llanelli), Captain; G. Thomas (Bridgend); A. Alexander (Cardiff), M. Wilkins (Cardiff), R. Hightower (Cardiff), G. Charvis (Cardiff), B. Bacheler (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Cardiff), D. Young (Cardiff), C. Chevallier (Cardiff), G. Thomas (Cardiff), S. Quinnell (Cardiff), S. Quinnell (Cardiff), S. Cuthbert (Richmond). Howley replaced by P. John (Pontypool), 70min. Chevallier replaced by C. Gidman (Cardiff), 70min. Gibbs temporarily replaced by J. Davies (Cardiff), 65-70.

UNITED STATES: M. Williams (Gentlemen of Aspen), V. Williams (Riverside, New York), R. L. Cole (Riverside, New York), R. Hightower (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Cardiff), D. Young (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Denver, Colorado), A. Bacheler (Cardiff), R. L. Miller (Denver), T. Gibbs (Gentlemen of Aspen), J. L. Clegg (Cardiff), J. Williams (Gentlemen of Aspen), J. Wilkins (Bolton, Lancs), C. Vogel (Cardiff), O. Lyle (Cardiff), R. Luskington (Pontypool). Williams replaced by D. Morrow (Gentlemen of Aspen), 84min. Gibbs replaced by J. Davies (Gentlemen of Aspen), 70min.

Referee: J. Meyne (Ireland)

Wales, however, had dominated the lineout, through Llewellyn and the scrums. They were always likely to win the loose ball, where Charvis had an effective match.

Wales' weakness was that

they were unable to create enough chances to break cleanly away. There were too many 'body checks' and charges. On the two occasions when they did get away, they did not score.

Howley broke clear to give

Scott Quinnell a run but the

No 8 chose to ignore his sup-

port and run a step too far.

Gareth Thomas on the wing

should also have crossed the

line but he, too, missed the

opportunity. Had these

chances been taken, Wales

might have grown in confi-

dence. Instead they stammered.

After six internationals, the

Wales selectors must now

realise there is a good team

to be drawn from the players

they have seen. To arrange

the correct combination at

half-back and in the second

and back rows is their prob-

lem.

Thomas and Alexander had

exchanged penalties before

Evans got the first of his two

tries and Gibbs had scythed

through the middle which left

him untouched for his score.

Thomas converted both. Alex-

ander's two penalties gave him

a total of 152 points in his car-

eer and makes him a record scor-

er for his country.

Bacheler closed the gap but

Wales stretched their lead with

a Thomas penalty. Evans's sec-

ond try and a penalty try. Thomas converted both.

SCORERS: Wales: Evans (2), Gibbs (penalty), Conversions: A Thomas (4). United States: Bacheler (try), Penalties: Alexander (5).

WALES: J. Thomas (Cardiff); I. Evans (Llanelli), A. Ballian (Cardiff), S. Gibbs (Llanelli), Captain; G. Thomas (Bridgend); A. Alexander (Cardiff), M. Wilkins (Cardiff), R. Hightower (Cardiff), G. Charvis (Cardiff), B. Bacheler (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Cardiff), D. Young (Cardiff), C. Chevallier (Cardiff), G. Thomas (Cardiff), S. Quinnell (Cardiff), S. Quinnell (Cardiff), S. Cuthbert (Richmond). Howley replaced by P. John (Pontypool), 70min. Chevallier replaced by C. Gidman (Cardiff), 70min. Gibbs temporarily replaced by J. Davies (Cardiff), 65-70.

UNITED STATES: M. Williams (Gentlemen of Aspen), V. Williams (Riverside, New York), R. L. Cole (Riverside, New York), R. Hightower (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Cardiff), D. Young (Cardiff), M. Alexander (Denver, Colorado), A. Bacheler (Cardiff), R. L. Miller (Denver), T. Gibbs (Gentlemen of Aspen), J. L. Clegg (Cardiff), J. Williams (Gentlemen of Aspen), J. Wilkins (Bolton, Lancs), C. Vogel (Cardiff), O. Lyle (Cardiff), R. Luskington (Pontypool). Williams replaced by D. Morrow (Gentlemen of Aspen), 84min. Gibbs replaced by J. Davies (Gentlemen of Aspen), 70min.

Referee: J. Meyne (Ireland)

Wales, however, had dominated the lineout, through Llewellyn and the scrums. They were always likely to win the loose ball, where Charvis had an effective match.

Wales' weakness was that

they were unable to create enough chances to break cleanly away. There were too many 'body checks' and charges. On the two occasions when they did get away, they did not score.

Howley broke clear to give

Scott Quinnell a run but the

No 8 chose to ignore his sup-

port and run a step too far.

Gareth Thomas on the wing

should also have crossed the

line but he, too, missed the

opportunity. Had these

chances been taken, Wales

might have grown in confi-

dence. Instead they stammered.

After six internationals, the

Wales selectors must now

realise there is a good team

to be drawn from the players

they have seen. To arrange

the correct combination at

half-back and in the second

and back rows is their prob-

lem.

Thomas and Alexander had

exchanged penalties before

Evans got the first of his two

TENNIS: BRITISH NO 1 PROVES HE HAS THE MAKINGS OF A CHAMPION ON EVE OF AUSTRALIAN OPEN

# Henman's rapid climb clears way for ultimate ascent

BY DAVID MILLER

IT IS a shame that Fred Perry, one of Britain's sporting legends of the past, is no longer with us. He would have loved to share the elation at the prominence of Tim Henman, the young British player who may be about to become the first to fill Perry's long empty shoes.

Henman's first title on the Association of Tennis Professionals Tour, the Sydney International, achieved on Saturday with a straight-sets victory over Carlos Moya, of Spain, suggested that any question regarding a first grand-slam title for the 23-year-old from Oxford is not whether but when.

Good fortune shone on Henman yesterday when Mark Philippoussis, the big Greek-Australian with a service even more formidable than Henman's own improved delivery, was obliged to withdraw from their scheduled first-round encounter in the Australian Open, starting today, because of an arm injury.

Philippoussis's replacement is a lucky loser in the qualifying. Andre Pavel, of Romania, who is ranked No 135 in the world, this should provide Henman with an easy passage to the second round and some opportunity further to adjust his metabolism to the rapid transition through eight time

zones from the Middle East last week.

I am not suggesting that Henman is about to win the Australian Open, or the Wimbledon title. Such a pinnacle may still be two or three years away. He has developed slowly, as did, for example, Sebastian Coe in athletics back in the late Seventies.

Yet in the space of two galloping weeks, by reaching his first final, in Qatar, and winning in Sydney, Henman has leapt, as it were, from the substitutes' bench to the centre of the pitch; raising his ranking in two weeks from No 29 on January 1 to No 14, an elevated position last occupied by Mark Cox.

Cox had been the last British player to win the men's singles title in a tournament of comparable class, at Stockholm in November 1976. The players Cox beat included Eddie Dibbs, Wojciech Fibak, Jimmy Connors and Manuel Orantes, who were all among the ten leading prize-money winners that year.

While Britain wallows in admiration on a wider front for the failed ambitions of those Jules Verne-style adventurers, Bullimore, Branson and Fennies, Henman is progressing more steadily, like a mountaineer, camp by ascending camp.

## Seeds fall by wayside

KENNETH CARLSEN and Jonas Bjorkman meet in an all-Scandinavian final at the rain-hit New Zealand Open in Auckland today.

In the semi-finals yesterday, Carlsen, of Denmark, beat the defending champion Jiri Novak, of the Czech Republic, 7-6, 6-4 and Bjorkman, of Sweden, disposed of Marcos Ondruska, of South Africa, 6-1, 6-1.

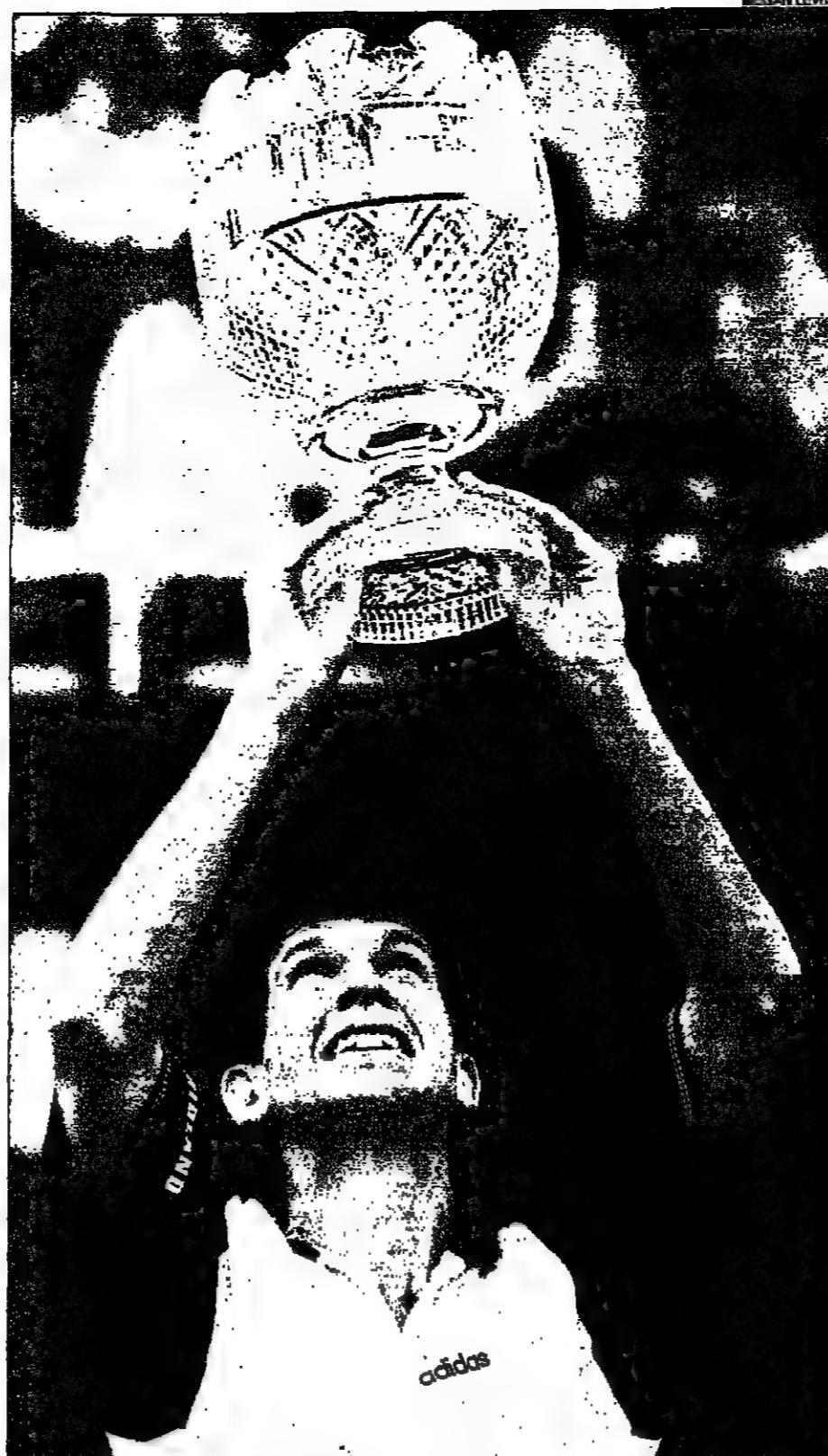
It is the first time that two unseeded players have made the final of the Auckland tournament, and the match will also see at least one

player break new ground, as neither has won a top-level tournament. It will be Bjorkman's second final and Carlsen's third.

The last surviving seed, Henman, of Argentina, the No 5 seed, was beaten 6-4, 7-6 by Carlsen in the quarter-final.

Tom Spinks, of Norfolk, surprised the top seed, Nick Weal, in the semi-final of the Bass-Reebok Tour event at Telford, won the tournament on Saturday with a 7-6, 3-6, 7-6 victory over Paul Hand, of Berkshire.

Yet in Henman's era, while



Henman holds the trophy aloft after securing his breakthrough victory in Sydney

In Perry's day, the stage was commanded by a relatively small number of supremely gifted amateurs. Perry, having first made his mark as a table tennis champion, reached the top in tennis by unremitting professionalism with a small "p". He was helped by the coaching of Dan Maskell, who would thread a racket handle through the net, protruding just above the tape on one or other flank, until Perry could strike it almost at will. Henman's forehand is occasionally reaching this quality.

Yet in Henman's era, while

the game still has its superstars, such as Sampras and Becker, it has become more like the coalface: work-ethic is all, competition is intensely tight throughout the top 50. Mental maturity has never been so essential. Henman is revealing that he possesses this.

This was not proved by the

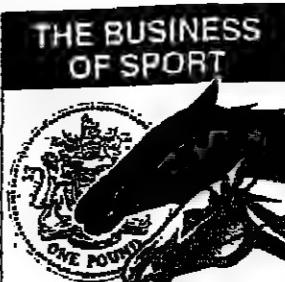
## Counting the cost to sport of freeze-up

The fickle British weather has taken its toll on the sporting programme over the past few weeks, reducing the traditional holiday football and racing programmes to rubble. The matches that have survived often become a comedy of errors with players unable to keep their feet on the icy pitches. The press conference rooms are, meanwhile, filled with the wintry sight of losing managers blaming the cold for their team's inept performance.

Racing has been particularly hard-hit by this winter's big freeze, losing 23 meetings over the Christmas period. The cancellations have cost the sport several million pounds in lost revenue — money that is not easily recouped later in the season. The Boxing Day racing programme, in particular, attracts many casual first-time racegoers who may develop a taste for the sport from this annual outing but are less likely to make a trip to the races at other times of the year. Rearranged meetings on the country's three all-weather tracks, which cannot host jump meetings, are a poor substitute for all but the most committed racegoer.

It is not just the immediate cost of lost gates and corporate hospitality receipts that has hurt racing. Repeated cancellations also have an impact on sponsorship deals. The Welsh National, for example, has been lost to the weather three years running and there are growing fears that Coral may reduce or even withdraw its sponsorship from the race.

Cancelled meetings are also particularly bad news for the jockeys and trainers. Jockeys can face genuine hardship as most are paid per mount rather than through a fixed salary. Boxing Day is traditionally a bumper pay-day for jockeys who can pick up six mounts at around £75 a ride — as well as the bonus prize-money. Trainers meanwhile do at least still receive their retainer for the horses but lose out on their cut of the prize-money which tops up their income. The trainers also face the headache that cancelled races can make it difficult to prepare the horses properly for big events such as Cheltenham in March.



For football, postponed meetings are an equally expensive business. David Sullivan, the Birmingham City chairman, estimates that lost fixtures over Christmas cost his club around £150,000. Replayed fixtures soften some of the blow but, in general, midweek matches mean smaller gates and less sponsorship money and shop takings. Postponements also bring extra costs such as dumping unused programmes that have been printed well ahead of the games. Birmingham also suffered because the club lost £60,000 in television money when their game against Tranmere Rovers was postponed.

For the smaller clubs, lost matches can cause serious financial trouble. The Christmas gates are among the largest of the season, when casual supporters rub shoulders with regulars. The absence of a regular income can cause cash-strapped clubs real problems as they struggle to continue paying their staff — leaving them reliant on the charity of their already long-suffering banks.

Inevitably, the cold snap has resurrected pleas for a winter break, which is heavily favoured by managers and players keen to recharge their batteries over Christmas. But the pernicious British weather is just as prone to a cold snap in March as in late December, while the directors are less than keen to see their club's income disappear halfway through the season.

The alternative, such as undersoil heating, is beyond the wallet of all but the biggest clubs — costing around £150,000 in itself and £1,000 a day to use. For the time being, the majority of British sport is going to remain vulnerable to the whims of our weather.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

**FIRST**  
**THE WINNER**  
ACE FIRST CLASS  
cream triumph PREMIER  
conqueror

Tim Henman wins his first ATP Tour Event and breaks into the world top 20 with his new Slazenger Phantom Tour Braided Racket.

Slazenger SHEER INSTINCT

THE SUNDAY TIMES

START PLANNING YOUR ESCAPE.

THE SUNDAY TIMES GREAT HOLIDAY OFFER  
STARTS SUNDAY JANUARY 19TH

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS





## RACING

# Levy Board finances escape worst of weather

BY JULIAN MUSCAT

RACING has emerged from its weather-enforced hiatus in sound financial shape. As a widespread thaw offered the prospect of an imminent return to normality, Horseracing Levy Board officials confirmed that the two-week absence of turf racing in Britain would not impact on the sport's finances.

The worst sufferers have been jockeys and racecourses, the latter only partially protected through insurance of their bigger fixtures against inclement weather. But no cuts to the prize-money pool are planned after the emergency package of all-weather fixtures generated higher than expected levels of betting turnover.

Although Fontwell's abandonment today was the first fixture lost this season, it will require further disruptions before the Levy Board is forced to

ing. Remarkably, television coverage of Lingfield's Saturday meeting nine days ago — coupled with the emergency fixture from Wolverhampton — generated nearly 90 per cent of the forecast turnover had the combined turf fixtures at Haydock, Sandown, Warwick and Musselburgh gone ahead. The all-weather success story could not have come at a better time; prize-money for 1997 had already been reduced to £28.5 million from £30 million the previous year.

Nevertheless, Brack calcu-

lated that over £1 million in levy has been lost since the weather deteriorated over Christmas. Packages of additional fixtures have been arranged, both to claw back the deficit and provide opportunities for beleaguered racecourse executives. "The emphasis is to give racecourses worst affected a chance to recover," he said. "Every racecourse to have lost a fixture has lost revenue."

In addition, prize-money for some existing races has been boosted to alleviate the loss of a series of valuable prizes. Five contests at Kempton's two-day meeting later this week have benefited from enhanced funding. The two on Friday — the Walton Juvenile Novices' Hurdle and the Gorham Novices' Hurdle — have respectively attracted 32 and 42 entries, many of them highly regarded. Two races at Haydock on Saturday have had their purses similarly increased.

More immediately, the outlook for tomorrow is encouraging with a full programme to prospect. At Leicester, which stages the first of a batch of replacement fixtures, Nick Lee, the clerk of the course, said: "We could race on the hurdles course now and, although there's some frost on the chase course, things are improving all the time."

A similarly bright bulletin was issued on behalf of Carlisle. The clerk of the course, Johnnie Fenwick-Clemmell, said: "We are frost-free, it is the weather and the forecast is good." Fenwick-Clemmell also reported that Kelso, scheduled to stage racing on Friday, is now free of snow.

Freezing conditions 12 months ago saw no horse racing take place for five days after Christmas. When the scheduled all-weather programme commenced in January, some £1 million in levy had been lost. That prompted the British Horseracing Board to prepare the contingency plan that has sustained the sport this year. "We estimate that the five all-weather fixtures after Christmas brought in £350,000 in levy income," Brack said. "There is the additional cost of staging these meetings to consider but funds were obviously saved as turf racing was hit."

All-weather racing has seen punters bet up to 70 per cent of the sums expected from a full daily programme of turf rac-

ing. Remarkably, the out-look for tomorrow is encouraging with a full programme to prospect. At Leicester, which stages the first of a batch of replacement fixtures, Nick Lee, the clerk of the course, said: "We could race on the hurdles course now and, although there's some frost on the chase course, things are improving all the time."

A similarly bright bulletin was issued on behalf of Carlisle. The clerk of the course, Johnnie Fenwick-Clemmell, said: "We are frost-free, it is the weather and the forecast is good." Fenwick-Clemmell also reported that Kelso, scheduled to stage racing on Friday, is now free of snow.

**TOMORROW'S MEETINGS**  
DALEFIELD (good/frost); LEICESTER (good/improving); LINFIELD (good).



Master Tribe holds off Black Queen as they draw clear of The Ladbroke field at Leopardstown on Saturday

## Champion beckons Master Tribe

FROM OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT AT LEOPARDSTOWN

MASTER TRIBE will be entered for the Champion Hurdle on the strength of his success in The Ladbroke, a handicapped hurdle, at Leopardstown on Saturday. The Jenny Pitman-trained gelding became the first British-trained winner of the race since Barmbrook Again in 1987 when beating Black Queen by a head.

He will be entered for the Champion Hurdle in an open year when there may be a chance of picking up some prize-money, a stable spokesman said yesterday.

Master Tribe is owned by the Jebel Ali Racing Stables, run by Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum, who wanted a horse in training at Weathercock House after seeing Royal Athlete win the Martell Grand National in 1995. Mrs Pitman had taken the seven-year-old to Wolverhampton for a race.

Waited with as Lady Arpel and Centaur Express cut out a furious early pace, Master Tribe made smooth headway before the second last and looked poised to win easily coming round the home turn. But he came off the bridge abruptly approaching the last and had to be driven out firmly by Norman Williamson as the runner-up produced a spirited challenge.

Williamson, who replaced Warren Marston on Master Tribe because of his experience of Leopardstown, felt that he might have been going too well. "I would have preferred to have hung on to him for longer, as he idled in front. But when Khaoswan dropped away, I had to go."

Williamson said:

"Master Tribe was so well

when I rode him out in the morning," the trainer's son, Mark, said. "We have never lost faith in this horse and there have always been valid excuses when he was beaten. This race was ideal for him, and I had to pinch myself to believe how well he was travelling."

The first two pulled six lengths clear of Penny A Day, one of three runners trained by Mary Revelley. Her other challengers, Executive Design and Express Gift, finished seventh and sixteenth.

Penny A Day will first tackle the Totie Gold Trophy at Newbury on February 8, for which he is 6-1 favourite with William Hill. He is set to carry 10st 2lb but the weights will rise if, as expected, the top weight, Large Action, does not run. "We could stand the

course gallop after the freezing weather disrupted his training schedule.

Ladbrokes rates Master Tribe a 50-1 chance for the hurdling championship and goes 33-1 Penny A Day, who was conceding 20lb to the winner. "Penny A Day ran a blinder," Revelley said. "The fast pace suited him the better they go, the better he jumps. If they are going to enter Master Tribe for the Champion, we might as well have a go, because at level weights things would have been a lot different."

Penny A Day will first tackle the Totie Gold Trophy at Newbury on February 8, for which he is 6-1 favourite with William Hill. He is set to carry 10st 2lb but the weights will rise if, as expected, the top weight, Large Action, does not run. "We could stand the

course gallop after the freezing weather disrupted his training schedule.

It was an excellent day for Williamson, who also won the Pierse Leopardstown Chase on the the Grand National prospect, Time For A Run. The Edward O'Grady-trained gelding, waited with as usual, quickened impressively from the last to beat Whale Of A Knight by ten lengths.

"I couldn't have asked for more. After that, he should justify a National entry," O'Grady commented. The owner of Time For A Run, J.P. McManus, said the Fulke Walwyn Kim Muir Challenge Cup at the Cheltenham Festival could be the ideal warm-up race for the National.

Michael Hourigan, the trainer, nominated the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham as the main target for Ultra Fluffer after his success under Tony McCoy in the Flogas Novices' Chase. Ultra Fluffer beat Miracle Man, trained in Sussex by Colin Weedon, by half a length and will next take on his stable companion, Dorans Pride, at Leopardstown on February 2.

"Tony said he went too slowly early on, and, after all the bad weather, the horse blew up at the second last," Hourigan said. "We will know about where he and Dorans Pride will go after their next race."

Such tribulations ask the most irrelevant question in

## Pain barrier was biggest hurdle for Alderbrook

The sounds were unmistakable and well come beyond belief. As pipes creaked and gutters chimed to the tune of running water, spirits soared in hundreds of stables across Britain. Racing is back on the agenda, freed from the suffocating blanket of ice and snow. Now commences the thrilling pursuit of identifying those winners at Cheltenham.

Sadly, neither Mysliv nor Alderbrook will be among them. The former is gone forever, although the latter can at least be survived by his progeny. To followers of jumps racing, the product of a union between the two would truly have been made in heaven. The death of Mysliv and retirement of Alderbrook has been regrettable for the absence of legitimate heirs. Where is the mare with the courage and charisma of Mysliv? Where is the horse with the lightning acceleration of Alderbrook, who could soothe the soul on the most foul winter days?

The announcement on Friday of Alderbrook's retirement brought with it nostalgic images of him sprinting up the Cheltenham hill in the 1995 Champion Hurdle, overhauling Large Action on the dash to the line. It was a towering performance on only his third start over hurdles. It is the one most will summon when prompted to reminisce, yet the sheer abruptness of his departure lingers more forcefully than any of his victories.

Alderbrook was retired because of the pain. No longer could his fragile limbs stand up to routine exercise. His legs had not given way after strong gallops they had simply deteriorated with the passage of time. For years he has been plagued by joint problems. Like a cancer, the pain must have developed a little more each day until, finally, it became all too much. This is fundamental to appreciating his finest quality.

The remarkable legacy of Alderbrook is that he retained his enthusiasm in the face of this debilitating condition. He must have been blessed with extraordinary spirit. With the extent of his problems apparent, it defies belief to remember him in the proud style of his head carriage, racing keenly, exuberantly, attacking his hurdles with rare zest. He was the proverbial dog on a leash: straining to be free, willing to respond with unflinching desire. And all the while, not apparent to the naked eye, he was hurting inside.

History is against him making a success of it, but the horse will not care one jot. Very few thoroughbreds deserve their chance like Alderbrook. Bravery is the scarcest commodity among the plethora of colts prematurely retired to the breeding industry. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at studding.

sport. What if? What if George Best had stayed off drink? What if David Gower had more patience? What if Alderbrook had been sound? It is not so much what might have happened as what happened in spite of it. In Alderbrook's case he demonstrated real fortitude to win his Champion Hurdle, a contest somewhat surprisingly littered with winners crippled in physique but unbowed in spirit.

Third of See You Then, three times victorious with his legs of bone china. And Morley Street, whose history of internal bleeding went so unappreciated that his courage was absurdly questioned. Thankfully, however, the similarities will end there. After his retirement See You Then was returned to the track in his dotage, his owners oblivious to the considerable debt they owed the great horse. Only recently, after several retirements and attempts to

JULIAN MUSCAT



Racing Commentary

regenerate him, Morley Street was finally pensioned on the eve of his thirteenth birthday. Let us hope it is for the last time.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

History is against him making a success of it, but the horse will not care one jot. Very few thoroughbreds deserve their chance like Alderbrook. Bravery is the scarcest commodity among the plethora of colts prematurely retired to the breeding industry. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult for an eight-year-old entire to focus his energies on racing. That Alderbrook escaped the cruellest cut now allows him an innings at

studding.

It will be different with Alderbrook, who remains an entire horse. That detail alone was another "handicap" he had to overcome. It can be notoriously difficult

Amanda Loose on Pop-lacrosse — the mini-version of the game with few rules but plenty of enjoyment

# Tough sport made children-friendly

HUGH BOUTLEDGE

**P**op-lacrosse is one of Britain's fastest growing sports — and children love it. A miniature version of the field game, Pop-lacrosse is played in more than 1200 schools and the numbers are growing by the term, says Mark Coups, the national director of development and coaching for the English Lacrosse Association (ELA).

Pop was launched at the 1987 London Youth Games at Crystal Palace, to encourage more children to play lacrosse from an earlier age. "People in lacrosse realised we were not attracting the youngsters as early as other sports did. The earlier you attract children, the greater the chance of keeping them," Mr Coups says.

It has been a huge hit. The number of players has increased by about 10 per cent each year, and there are now 30 ELA coaches working in more than 600 schools, three quarters of which are primary schools. It is also an ideal game for people with learning difficulties or with disabilities.

**T**he membership of many of the clubs has increased thanks to children being encouraged to go along by their schools and more youngsters are taking up field lacrosse, Coups says.

"Pop is a progressive sport. About 80 per cent of the male British under-19s team started by playing Pop, and at the under-16s level, this figure is even higher. Pop is becoming the basis for the proper game. Having coaches from a club coming into schools helps us to hang on to the children," says Mr Coups, who first played field lacrosse when he was only two.

"We looked at games like football, which were in direct competition with us, by attracting the eight to 11-year-olds, and realised that we needed a miniature version of lacrosse," he says.

An indoor or outdoor game, Pop can be played on any surface, and the ELA rules say that the game should be played with mixed teams of eight children, four boys and four girls wherever possible. "It is a very basic, non-contact version of field lacrosse," Mr Coups says. "Using lightweight plastic sticks which bend, and softer balls, the children learn to throw, catch and shoot, and as there aren't any goalkeepers, every child has the opportunity to score."

Emma Bradbury, 18, is working as a local development officer for the ELA in her gap year, before studying sports science at university. Ms Bradbury has been teaching Pop to the seven to 11-year-olds at Hereford Cathedral Junior School since September, and at Garsley and Lugwardine primary schools in the same area.

"We went co-ed six years ago," says Tim Lowe, headmaster of Hereford Cathedral Junior School, "so I wanted to boost games the girls could take part in."

After Mr Lowe had watched children playing Pop at the Manchester Youth Games last year, he contacted the lacrosse club in his home village of Mellor, near Manchester, to



Team game: Emma Bradbury, 18, who is working as a local development officer for the English Lacrosse Association in her gap year, with her Pop-lacrosse pupils at Hereford Cathedral Junior School



find out if it had any gap year students who would be willing to coach his pupils.

"It is a real beginners' game and great for developing hand-eye co-ordination and ball skills. The coaches are trained to make it all fun for the children."

The pupils love it and it is very cheap and easy to set up. We use mini hockey goals and bought 24 sticks for £184, with different coloured heads for the teams."

Coups says: "Pop meets all the National Curriculum requirements for Key Stage 2, which had added to its popularity in schools. It suits all sporting abilities and the children start at the same level, because none of them have ever played before."

"Pop is very fast and a novelty for the children because they can carry the ball along. The whole body is used, and their limbs have to be coordinated. They have to use

their imagination to decide where to throw the ball next."

Ms Bradbury started to play field lacrosse at The Athelred School, Southampton, when she was ten, and at 17 played for Hampshire, where she is now a reserve in the county senior squad.

The children enjoy Pop because of the minimal rules of the game," she says.

**B**ecause there isn't a goalkeeper, scoring opportunities are high. Apart from teaching Pop during the school day, I have just started an after-school Pop club."

Ms Bradbury is the first coach to be employed full time, and for a year. The other coaches, half of whom are American, are graduates working for six months. They are trained by the ELA, but financed by the local clubs, and are provided with a salary, car and accommodation.

Some of this is offset by payments from local schools. Local authorities in some areas will also support coaching," Mr Coups says.

Each coach works in anything from 12 to 20 schools each week, spending about an hour in each school. Coaching programmes are co-ordinated by ELA regional development officers, and supplementary coaching courses for teachers are provided. They also run local and regional tournaments as well as the national Pop lacrosse championships.

Two eight-strong teams of the children from Hereford Cathedral Junior School have just taken part in their first tournament, organised by the Welsh Lacrosse Association. The B team reached the semi-finals of their group, and the children are now working towards a more advanced seven-a-side tournament next term — with a little extra coaching from Ms Bradbury.

**SHEEHAN on BRIDGE**

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT  
In this year's Gold Cup, Steve Ray's team consisted of three husband and wife pairs — the Rays, the Seniors and the Teshomes. They lost by 6 IMPs in the round of 16, to Bernard Teltscher's London-based team. This is a hand on which Tony Price (South) afterwards criticised his own play.

**Dealer North**

Love all IMPs

♦Q4	♦KJ10
♦VJ104	♦Q1053
♦AK82	♦Q754
♦AK2	
♦A852	
♦VQ83	
♦VJ97	
♦VQ98	
♦K783	
♦VAK782	
♦4	
♦V183	

Contract: Four Hearts by South.

North (Teltscher) opened One Diamond and over South's One Heart response rebid 1 NT, showing a balanced hand with 15-17 points. Then South bid Two Clubs, an inquiry bid. Now North jumped to Three Hearts to show a maximum with three-card heart support, and South went on to game.

Priday won the club lead in dummy. As he needed to set up a spade ruff he continued with a low spade. Unfortunately East was able to win, and she played a trump. Priday won with the king, and a second spade went to East's king; back came another trump.

In practice Priday played low and a third round of trumps from West sunk the contract. But as Priday said afterwards he should go up with the ace on the second heart. Provided the diamonds break favourably, he will have ten tricks when the hearts are 3-2, whoever has the queen.

After the ace of hearts declarer should continue with the ace of diamonds, and a diamond ruff. He then crosses to dummy with a club, and when the queen doesn't come down, he discards a club on the king of diamonds. Now he ruffs a diamond in hand, establishing the suit. Finally declarer ruffs a spade in dummy and cashes the fifth diamond. The tricks he makes are one spade ruff, four hearts in hand, two high diamonds and the fifth diamond, and two club tricks.

□ Several current world champions are among the 16 pairs who will be playing in the Macallan International Pairs 1997 (January 22 to 24, at The White House Hotel, Albany Street, London NW1). You can watch all the tables or in the Viewgraph theatre. Information: 0181-878 5344.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

**TYPHON**  
a. With two voices  
b. A waterspout  
c. A giant

**TENONIAN**  
a. Land tenure  
b. With ten heads  
c. To do with eyeballs

**TRAGELAPH**  
a. A Flemish gable end  
b. A goat-deer  
c. A tragic semichorus

**TUGGLE**  
a. A scout's cravat  
b. To tug and wriggle  
c. A freshwater fish

Answers on page 40

## KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Wijk aan Zee

This week sees the start of one of the major events in the chess calendar, the traditional elite competition in the Dutch town of Wijk aan Zee. Nigel Short, Britain's top grandmaster, will be hoping to repeat his triumph from Groningen in December, where he captured first prize. On this occasion, though, the strength of the field will be increased by the inclusion of the strong grandmasters Gata Kamsky, Vassily Ivanchuk and Valery Salov.

In the past, though, Short has shown himself well able to inflict defeat on this type of opponent and British fans will be hoping for another Short victory, confirming that he has returned to top form after his match defeat by Kasparov in London in 1993.

Black: Nigel Short

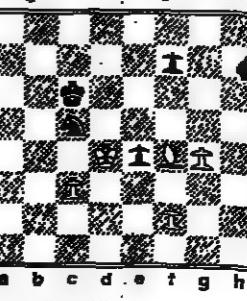
White: Vassily Ivanchuk

Horgen 1995

**French Defence**

1 e4	e5	2 d4	Rhe8
2 d4	g5	3 f4	Nf6
3 Nc3	f5	4 Nf3	Ng6
4 Nf3	h5	5 Nbd4	Kg8
5 Nbd4	g4	6 Nc6	Rhe8
6 Nc6	f4	7 Nc2	Rf8
7 Nc2	h4	8 Nf3	Rf4
8 Nf3	g3	9 Nc4	dx4
9 Nc4	h3	10 Nc2	Rb1
10 Nc2	g2	11 Nf3	Rb6
11 Nf3	f3	12 Nc4	Kf7
12 Nc4	h2	13 Nf2	Rb5
13 Nf2	g1	14 Nc3	cd4
14 Nc3	h1	15 Nf2	Rb4
15 Nf2	g1	16 Nc3	Kf6
16 Nc3	h1	17 Nf2	Rb3
17 Nf2	g1	18 Nc3	Kf5
18 Nc3	h1	19 Nf2	Rb2
19 Nf2	g1	20 Nc3	Kf4
20 Nc3	h1	21 Nf2	Rb1
21 Nf2	g1	22 Nc3	Kf3
22 Nc3	h1	23 Nf2	Rb0
23 Nf2	g1	24 Nc3	Kf2

Diagram of final position



Times book

*The Times Winning Moves 2* contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 0171-321276 at £6.99 plus postage and packing).

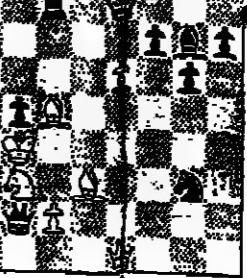
□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

## WINNING MOVES

By Raymond Keene

Black to play. This position is from the game Topalov — Kramnik, Belgrade 1995. In this remarkable game, Black's vicious attack had forced the white king to run from the kingside to the queenside in the hope of finding shelter. How does Black now show that White's efforts have been in vain?

Solution on page 40



In early versions of the game, matches could last for two or three days

كذلك من الأصل



# Capitalisation, week's change

**TRADING PERIOD:** Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Mr cap (£m)	Company	Price	Wkly	Yr	%	PE	Mr cap (£m)	Company	Price	Wkly	Yr	%	PE	Mr cap (£m)	Company	Price	Wkly	Yr	%	PE
<b>ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES</b>																				
1,020.50	Brockenhurst	449	-	32	27.2		1,102.50	Brockenhurst	449	-	32	27.2		1,125.50	Brentford Td	551	-	32	16.5	
251.40	British Beer	420	+ 20	59	12.2		251.40	British Beer	420	+ 20	59	12.2		1,125.00	Brentford Td	551	-	32	16.5	
251.40	Burn Street	571	+ 18	52	5.0		251.40	Burn Street	571	+ 18	52	5.0		1,125.00	Brentford Td	551	-	32	16.5	
1,020.50	Cadbury At	224	-	17	4.6		1,020.50	Cadbury At	224	-	17	4.6		1,125.00	Brentford Td	551	-	32	16.5	
3,275.00	Castrol	535	-	16	4.4	13.5	3,275.00	Castrol	535	-	16	4.4	13.5	3,275.00	Castrol	535	-	16	4.4	13.5
1,020.50	Chivas Regal	325	-	16	4.4	13.5	1,020.50	Chivas Regal	325	-	16	4.4	13.5	1,125.00	Chivas Regal	325	-	16	4.4	13.5
1,020.50	Diageo	325	-	16	4.4	13.5	1,020.50	Diageo	325	-	16	4.4	13.5	1,125.00	Diageo	325	-	16	4.4	13.5
1,020.50	Dunhill	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Dunhill	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,125.00	Dunhill	167	-	1	53	14.5
4,517.10	Imperial Dist	1504	-	11	21		4,517.10	Imperial Dist	1504	-	11	21		4,517.10	Imperial Dist	1504	-	11	21	
<b>BANKS</b>																				
11,200.00	Barclays Corp	3719	-	57	32	14.7	3719	Barclays Corp	3719	-	57	32	14.7	3719	Barclays Corp	3719	-	57	32	14.7
10,745.50	Barclay Plc	754	+ 18	32	14.1		10,745.50	Barclay Plc	754	+ 18	32	14.1		10,745.50	Barclay Plc	754	+ 18	32	14.1	
1,020.50	Bank of America	1504	-	55	11.3		1,020.50	Bank of America	1504	-	55	11.3		1,020.50	Bank of America	1504	-	55	11.3	
1,020.50	Bank of America At	224	-	17	4.6	12.0	1,020.50	Bank of America At	224	-	17	4.6	12.0	1,020.50	Bank of America At	224	-	17	4.6	12.0
3,877.00	Bankers Trust	635	-	16	4.4	13.5	3,877.00	Bankers Trust	635	-	16	4.4	13.5	3,877.00	Bankers Trust	635	-	16	4.4	13.5
1,020.50	Barings	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Corp	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Corp	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Corp	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5
1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167	-	1	53	14.5	1,020.50	Barings Int'l Corp At	167</td				

مكمل من الأصل

## BUSINESS STATISTICS

## TODAY

Interims: Ellis & Everard, Tomkins. Finals: Cardiff Property. Trading statements: Boots. Economic statistics: UK December producer prices, Bank of France money market tender, Bank of France discount T-bill auction, US December consumer prices index, US December retail sales, US Treasury auction of short-term T-bills.

## TOMORROW

Interims: Aim Group, Atlantic Telecom, Birley, Matthew Clark, UNO, VIE. Finals: Denmans. Trading statements: House of Fraser. Economic statistics: British Retail Consortium December survey, US Treasury announces size of short-term T-bills auction, API weekly oil supply statistics, Italy October EU trade balance, Italy November non-EU trade balance, Bundesbank calls for repos.

## WEDNESDAY

Interims: Aberforth Split Level Trust, Sydney C Banks, Benson Group, Dudley Jenkins Group, Stanley Leisure. Finals: none scheduled. Trading statements: Body Shop, Kingfisher. Economic statistics: French October current account, UK December unemployment, UK November unit wage costs, average earnings, Kenneth Clarke/Eddie George monthly monetary meeting, Bundesbank awards repos, US November business inventories, US Treasury announces sizes of two-year and five-year treasury notes auction.

## THURSDAY

Interims: Carpetright, McKay Securities, John Menzies, Proteus International. Finals: Aberforth Smaller Companies, Alfred Textile Company, Greenwich Resources, Lonrho. Trading statements: Next. Economic statistics: UK December retail prices index, French final Q3 gross domestic product, Bank of France money market tender, Bank of France monetary policy council meeting, Bank of France annual coupon T-bill auction, US weekly jobless claims report, Philadelphia Federal Reserve Bank January economic survey.

## FRIDAY

Interims: none scheduled. Finals: LPA Industries. Trading statements: Stockhouse. Economic statistics: UK December public sector borrowing requirement.

## Singapore Airlines seeks open skies

By JON ASHFORTH



Richard Thorne, left, the senior vice-president of OAG, hands over the airline of the year award to Michael Tan.

SINGAPORE Airlines (SIA) is renewing efforts to launch a daily service between London and New York, in a move that increases pressure for a new bilateral aviation agreement.

The airline reports load factors of 80 per cent on its two existing transatlantic routes — from Frankfurt and Amsterdam — and says growth is being restricted.

It is seeking a bilateral agreement to allow it to operate daily onward flights from London. It wants to increase services between Singapore and Heathrow from two to three flights daily, run daily services from Manchester, and expand cargo operations.

SIA says a daily New York service would provide much-needed competition to British Airways and American Airlines, which together speak for nearly 70 per cent of the London to New York run.

Michael Tan, SIA's deputy managing director (commercial), said the move would increase consumer choice. A new UK-US "open skies" agreement is a prerequisite for the planned BA/American alliance.

Mr Tan said: "Many businessmen fly to London on

business, and would like to resume their journey on to New York. Heathrow is the natural choice given the close association between Asian countries and the UK."

The UK accounts for a third of passenger traffic between Europe and the Far East, including more than 40 per cent of traffic to Singapore. Passenger traffic between the two countries has grown at 7.8 per cent a year over six years, and SIA's load factors out of the UK average 76 per cent. SIA says business will be lost to other European hubs unless frequencies are increased. It has battled to increase frequencies since 1971.

Talks on liberalising air services between the UK and Singapore began in 1996, and are due to resume next month. Two rounds have been held so far. British airlines enjoy rights beyond Singapore to

Australia, and hubbing rights in Singapore. SIA has none of these benefits in the UK.

The UK accounts for a third of passenger traffic between Europe and the Far East, including more than 40 per cent of traffic to Singapore. Passenger traffic between the two countries has grown at 7.8 per cent a year over six years, and SIA's load factors out of the UK average 76 per cent. SIA says business will be lost to other European hubs unless frequencies are increased. It has battled to increase frequencies since 1971.

All credits will be used to already direct flights to Singapore. No further public advertising or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
Signed this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE. All creditors who have not already done so are invited to make full disclosure in writing to the Liquidator in writing to the above address. No further public advertisement or invitation to prove debts.

Dated this 27th January 1997  
E D GOODMAN, PCA, Lawyer

L M Young Trading Co Limited  
100 Gloucester Road, London SW1 4EE  
Notice of Apparatus  
of Administration Receiver  
and Creditors  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 4(2)(c) of the Administration Act 1986 that I, D Goodman, PCA, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Messrs Leonard Carris & Co, PG SE2, 20 Eastbourne Terrace, London SW3, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the members on 27th January 1997. All debts and charges should be sent me at 100

## Hercules to lift UK aerospace

Aerospace companies in Britain are poised to win at least £400 million worth of orders from a new generation of the Hercules military transporter, with US defence manufacturers also planning a civilian version of the aircraft.

UK companies involved in the project include Rolls-Royce, Lucas Aerospace and Westland. They will get a £4 million warshare per plane. Lockheed Martin, the US defence group, is the prime contractor. A hundred old Hercules are currently in civilian use around the world.

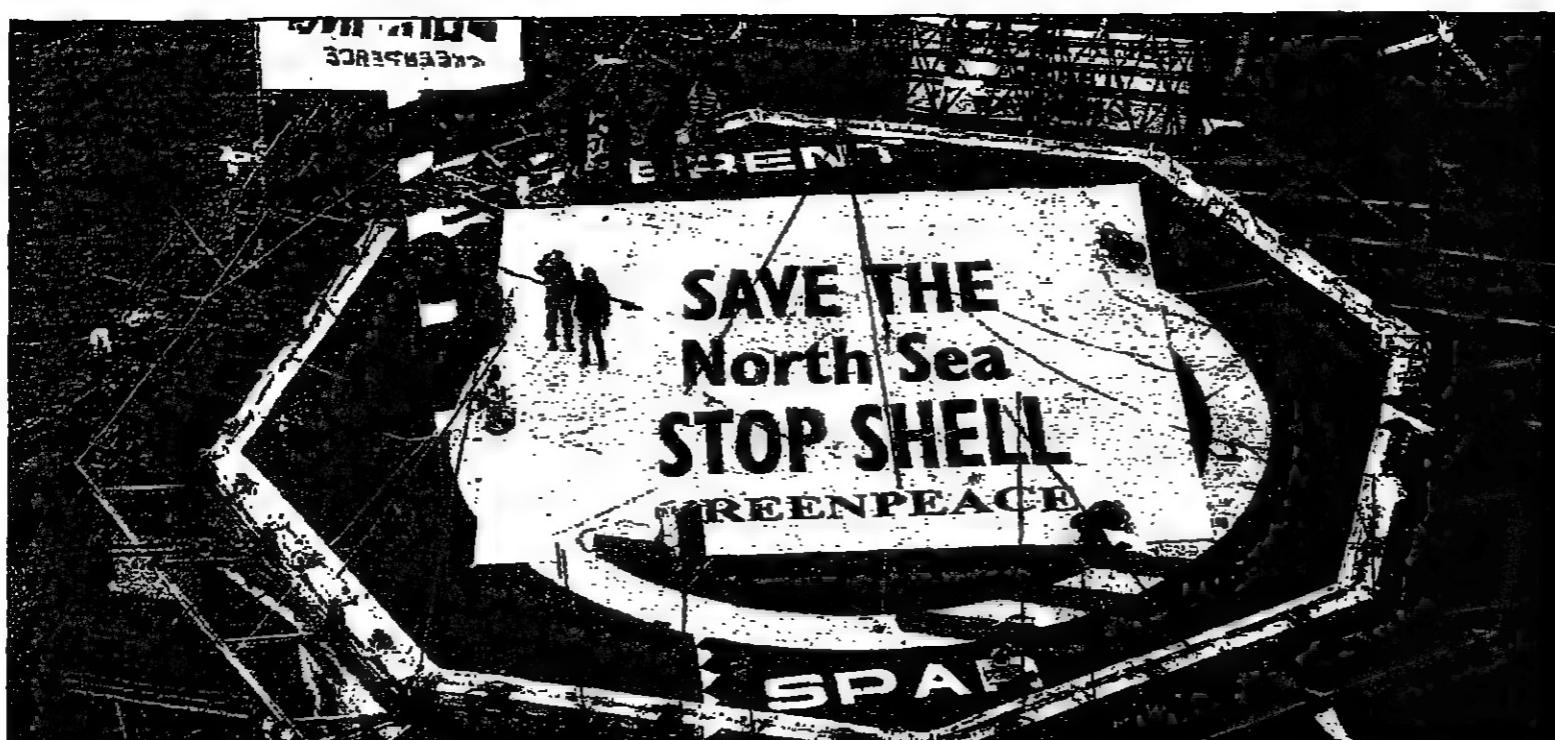
### At the double

Henry Ansbacher, the South African-owned merchant bank, nearly doubled its pre-tax profit to £10.76 million in the year to September 30. It said yesterday. It made £5.25 million last time.

The latest earnings include a first pre-tax contribution of £1.08 million from FNB (Asia), which was transferred to Ansbacher a year ago. Ansbacher said both its UK merchant banking and its offshore operations performed well, while its South African financing activities experienced pressure on margins.

### AIM first

Open Systems, the software company, plans to raise between £2 million and £3 million on AIM through an institutional placing, becoming the first US company to seek a primary listing on London's junior market.



Greenpeace campaigners pressured Shell into rethinking its disposal plans for Brent Spar and British companies concede fear of controversy now counts

## UK companies fight shy of rights activists, says survey

BY MARIANNE CURPHAY

ONE in five companies admits to having been deterred from an overseas investment because of lobbying by human rights activists, or over fears that the initiative would be too controversial, according to a new survey.

The survey shows that pressure groups are emerging as a powerful new force capable of damaging company profits and hindering overseas development. The most successful lobbyists are environmental organisations — among them Greenpeace, which succeeded via a high-profile media cam-

paign in forcing the Shell oil company to reconsider dumping the Brent Spar platform in the Atlantic Ocean in 1995.

Shell was also criticised last week by the World Council of Churches, which accused Nigeria's regime of widespread oppression in the oil-rich Ogoniland and attacked Shell for causing environmental damage in the region. Oil and gas companies are expected to continue to be the focus for environmental anger.

The British and American public are among the most sensitive about human rights

investment decision because of human rights issues, compared with one in three in Britain.

In the survey of 51 global companies with turnover in excess of £1 billion, 57 per cent of international development directors expected the risks posed by pressure groups to increase over the next five years.

Only 10 per cent thought they would diminish. Ninety per cent believed it was possible to work with pressure groups on the environment and 77 per cent thought col-

laboration possible on labour standards.

CR cites controversy over Burma where in 1996 Carlsberg, the Danish brewer, and Heineken, its Dutch counterpart, both withdrew from the country rather than face a consumer boycott campaign.

However, a report last year by the British Government's Advisory Committee on Business and the Environment said although directors should involve environmentalists in policymaking, this did not guarantee escape from high-profile media reporting.

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

THE US tobacco industry's long running legal battle with anti-smokers has taken another twist with the decision by Liggett, one of the five main cigarette manufacturers, to turn over potentially explosive documents to its critics.

The news has already had a damaging effect across the industry with the shares of BAT Industries, which owns Brown & Williamson, one of the big four US tobacco companies, dropping 13p to 47.5p.

The documents are believed to contain new evidence that the industry may have covered up the health dangers of smoking and generated favourable scientific results under the guise of independent research. It is the second time in a year that Liggett, which is owned by Bennett LeBow, the corporate raider, has stepped out of line with the industry in an attempt to put an end to expensive anti-smoking litigation.

The company is proposing to hand over notes of meetings of the Committee of Counsel, a group of senior lawyers from the big tobacco companies who regularly discuss legal issues over 30 years. The Committee also discussed health research, public relations, legislation and marketing and it is noted on these conversations that could prove most explosive for the industry.

Liggett proposes to give the documents to the attorney-general of several states that are suing the tobacco com-

## MPs to grill Savings chief

THE head of the Government's savings arm is to be grilled by a House of Commons committee this week over the unexplained £50 million black hole uncovered in its accounts (Robert Miller writes).

Peter Bureau, who succeeded David Butler as chief executive of National Savings last summer, will be quizzed by MPs on

the Commons Public Accounts Committee on Wednesday over a damning National Audit Office report.

The 36-page document, published in October, listed serious accounting errors at National Savings, which looks after some £60 billion on behalf of about 30 million people. The report said Nat-

ional Savings was owed £37 million by investors, and one account was £23 million overdrawn. Systems errors were blamed.

Mr Bureau is expected to tell the Commons committee that the errors have now been largely identified, new systems installed and that no money has actually been lost.

### WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 36

#### TYPHON

(c) The name of a giant or monster of ancient Greek mythology (according to Hesiod), the son of Typhoeus, and father of the Winds. Later identified with Typhon, fabled to have been buried under Mount Etna, and represented as having a hundred heads and breathing out flames. Also used as a name for the Egyptian evil divinity. "He marches all elate / Gaints that Typhon of the state / Storm and hurricane and tempest combining."

#### TENONIAN

(c) A delicate band of fascia with involuntary muscle fibres disposed round the eyeball. An eponym of its discoverer. J. R. Tenon, French anatomist (1724-1816). "The symptoms of tenonitis."

#### TRAGELAPH

(b) The name for some foreign and possibly mythical species of caprine antelope or other horned beast, vaguely known to the ancients. The Greek compound word for "goat-deer". "There is in the forests of Germany a kind of stag, named by the ancients the Tragelaphus, and which the natives call the braun deer, or the brown deer."

#### TUGGLE

(b) To pull about roughly, to drag about. Apparently a frequentative form of tug. Montgomerie, Flying. 1585. "Tossed and tugged with towne tykes."

#### SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

I... Bc3+! 2 Qxc3 a5+ and the white queen goes.

### CHANGE ON WEEK

#### THE POUND

##### US dollar

1.6810 (-0.0106)

##### German mark

2.6835 (+0.0290)

##### Exchange Index

96.1 (+0.3)

Bank of England official close (4pm)

#### STOCK MARKET

##### FT 30 share

1995.91 (+814.89)

##### FTSE 100

4056.6 (-32.9)

##### New York Dow Jones

6703.79 (+159.70)

##### Tokyo Nikkei Avge

17303.65 (unc)

0990 29 29 29

Booking 737-500

## Your New Year's resolution

Daily Scheduled Services

<b>4 x Glasgow</b>	<b>£29</b>
<b>4 x Edinburgh</b>	<b>£29</b>
<b>3 x Aberdeen</b>	<b>£29</b>
<b>1 x Inverness</b>	<b>£29</b>
<b>3 x Amsterdam</b>	<b>£35</b>
<b>1 x Nice</b>	<b>£49</b>
<b>1 x Barcelona</b>	<b>£49</b>

All fares single, return, excl. tax. Or not require a Saturday night stay. Please book direct or by telephone.

**easyJet**

Call 0990 29 29 29 anytime

AT&T 4453

مكتبة من الأصل

## Liggett lights second fuse under troubled tobacco firms

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

THE US tobacco industry's long running legal battle with anti-smokers has taken another twist with the decision by Liggett, one of the five main cigarette manufacturers, to turn over potentially explosive documents to its critics.

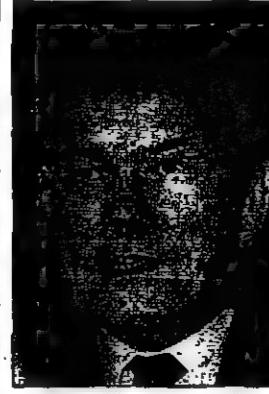
The news has already had a damaging effect across the industry with the shares of BAT Industries, which owns Brown & Williamson, one of the big four US tobacco companies, dropping 13p to 47.5p.

The documents are believed to contain new evidence that the industry may have covered up the health dangers of smoking and generated favourable scientific results under the guise of independent research. It is the second time in a year that Liggett, which is owned by Bennett LeBow, the corporate raider, has stepped out of line with the industry in an attempt to put an end to expensive anti-smoking litigation.

The company is proposing to hand over notes of meetings of the Committee of Counsel, a group of senior lawyers from the big tobacco companies who regularly discuss legal issues over 30 years. The Committee also discussed health research, public relations, legislation and marketing and it is noted on these conversations that could prove most explosive for the industry.

Liggett proposes to give the documents to the attorney-general of several states that are suing the tobacco com-

## New chapter opens for publisher



Razall: set to profit

COLLINS & BROWN, the publisher, is to join the Alternative Investment Market by the end of the month, making Paul Tierney, a director of United Airlines, a paper millionaire.

Tim Razall, national treasurer of the Liberal Democrats, is another shareholder set to profit from the 245 per cent return the company has provided to its original investors so far.

Mr Tierney, who invested £150,000 when the company started, now holds a 19 per cent stake that will be worth £1.05 million when it floats. He will become non-executive chairman.

Both men were brought on board by Cameron Brown, chief executive, who set up the company with Mark Collins. He broke from the Collins publishing dynasty 13 years ago and is now publishing director.

Mr Brown said: "Setting up a publishing business with Mark Collins is like setting up a bank with one of the Rothschilds. We are about the only publishing company set up in 1989 that survived the recession and we are set for even more growth now."

As one of the few AIM flotation this month, Collins & Brown will help the junior exchange to pass another milestone, its development bringing the total money raised by AIM companies which has risen 12.9 per cent from the new year, against a 5.6 per cent rise of the FTSE AIM index.

More money is set to be injected by the AIM Distribution Trust. It is raising £10.3 million to invest in its portfolio of AIM companies, which has risen 12.9 per cent from the new year, against a 5.6 per cent rise of the FTSE AIM index.

The index shot up 23 points to 1068.60 over the week, after what David Abrahams, a trader from Winterflood Securities, described as the busiest week the market had seen. He attributed the rush to a delayed reaction to new year tips.

FRASER NELSON

الآن من الأصل

## UBS arm offers \$15m forex compensation

FROM PHILIP JEUNE IN JERSEY

A SUBSIDIARY of Union Bank of Switzerland is to offer compensation to 90 investors who claim to have lost \$26.7 million in foreign exchange deals carried out in Jersey by Robert Young, the trader now facing fraud charges. Camtrade Private Bank Switzerland, the UBS arm that has also been charged with fraud in connection with the deals, is offering to repay the trading losses together with the appropriate interest.

"We are talking of between \$13

million to \$15 million in all," said Johann Bärlocher, Camtrade's managing director. "Both Coopers & Lybrand and KPMG have quantified the investors' actual losses at \$10.5 million and we will add interest from the time when each individual loss was incurred."

Camtrade has never accepted that the losses reached the claimed level of \$26.7 million and denies any legal liability on its part, whether of a civil or a criminal nature.

If the investors accept the compensation they will be asked to assign

their claims to the bank, which in turn may seek to reclaim some of the money from Deloitte & Touche, the accountants whose former partner Alf Williams is said to have audited Mr Young's trading figures, and Mayo Associates, the Geneva investment manager that acted as trustees for the investors.

The level of risk involved is at the heart of civil actions that have been brought by Mayo Associates on behalf of the investors against Camtrade, Deloitte & Touche and Mr Young in Jersey's Royal Court. It is

claimed that Mr Young's foreign exchange deals, carried out between 1988 and 1993, were subject to a strict 10 per cent downside limit but that the bank failed to inform the investors of their massive losses or to stop Mr Young from trading beyond the 10 per cent limit.

Mayo also claims that Mr Williams audited the purported results of Mr Young's dealings and that Deloitte & Touche failed to check the accuracy of Mr Young's stated profits. Both Camtrade and Deloitte & Touche have denied the allegations. Deloitte &

Touche says that Mr Williams merely advised Mr Young on tax matters, that he did not "audit" the trading figures and that Mayo never relied on documents provided by him. Meanwhile Robson Rhodes, forensic accountants, is helping the Jersey police to investigate the losses, which have so far resulted in a total of 98 fraud charges being brought against Mr Young. Mr Williams and Peter Stoneman, Camtrade senior manager, No pleas have yet been entered by the three, or by the bank itself which faces a further 33 fraud charges.

## PIA sued by Burns Anderson over ruling

BY CAROLINE MERRELL

BURNS ANDERSON, one of the UK's biggest networks of independent financial advisers, is taking legal action against its regulator, the Personal Investment Authority, over investor claims for losses reaching £5 million.

More than 200 people invested money in the Villa Investments Plan offered by Steed Financial Services, based in Lincolnshire, believing that they were buying shares in a Spanish property venture. They were promised high returns generated from rental income and from an increase in the value of the property itself. The investors believed that they were making legitimate investments, while Burns Anderson claims

that they were buying into a timeshare.

The firm was one of the hundred or so financial advisers that trade under the Burns Anderson umbrellas – an organisation of which Sir John Harvey-Jones was once chairman and Phil Cox, now finance director of Asda, was chief executive.

When Steed Financial Services went into receivership two years ago, it was discovered that a number of the shares in the property investment had been sold more than once. Since the losses were uncovered, the investors have been in dispute with Burns Anderson about compensation.

The network claims that the investment falls outside the Financial Services Act, which means that it is not liable for compensation. At the beginning of last year, Eversheds, the solicitor acting on behalf of the investors, took the case to the PIA ombudsman who ruled that there could be a claim.

Burns Anderson took the case to appeal and lost, and now wants the case to be heard in the High Court.

If Burns Anderson loses, it should be able to claim for the losses against its personal indemnity insurance. However, in the past, insurers have been reluctant to pay out on such claims.

The legal tussle is a new chapter in the company's troubled history. Just over four years ago, the Burns Anderson Group, which comprised companies other than the financial adviser chain, went into receivership after its shares were suspended at a price of 2p. The network was ringfenced from the losses sustained by the group and was acquired by a management buyout team.

### Europe set for record sell-offs

A RECORD \$3 billion of privatisations are expected in Europe this year as governments scramble to reduce their debts before monetary union in 1999, (Eric Keay writes).

In a report published today, J P Morgan, the US investment bank, predicts that 1997 will be the peak year of the decade for privatisations. Last year's receipts came to \$4.3 billion, up from about \$2.5 billion in 1995, raising the total value of the European privatisation programme to \$20 billion.

Italy is expected to conduct \$20 billion of sales this year, with France second, followed by Spain and Germany.



John Jarvis, left, and David Thomas clinched deals in York and Hull for Jarvis Hotels, with a third deal pending

## UK Estates' broker waives victory fee

BY FRASER NELSON

PEEL HUNT, the stockbroker, has agreed to waive the £7,500 victory fee it was going to charge UK Estates after buying 460,000 of its shares to bolster its defence against Ashquay's bid.

The move takes the vote controlled by those defending the company to 28 per cent, against the 38 per cent that Ashquay claims in support of its £21 million bid. The result will be decided by 1pm today, when the last submissions must be received.

Ashquay said it had heard nothing to refute its claims that the £970,000 administration bill UK Estates had clocked up was exorbitant.

UK Estates responded that the expenses were necessary to

build up its 15-strong property portfolio, which generates an average revenue of £200,000 per site against the £32,300 average generated by Ashquay's 62 properties.

Ashquay has also taken issue with the £530,000 that UK Estates has spent on its employees' benefit trust covering ten members, two of whom are directors. The scheme now accounts for 16 per cent of the faction fighting the bid.

Harry Sproule, chief executive of Ashquay, said: "This is the kind of thing which should horrify shareholders and institutions."

Ashquay is raising £3.5 million through a rights issue to cover the £1.5 million cost of the bid.

UK Estates responded that the expenses were necessary to

## Jarvis pays £16m for Greenfield hotels

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

JARVIS HOTELS has bought two hotels in England and exchanged contracts on a third in Scotland, spending a total of £16.22 million in cash.

The three hotels, all freehold properties, were part of Greenfield Holdings, which went into receivership last year. Croft Hotels (1996), a new company, was set up by Coopers & Lybrand of Leeds, the receivers, allowing the hotels to trade as normal.

The hotels being bought by Jarvis, which is led by John Jarvis, chairman and chief executive, and David Thomas, deputy chief executive, are the 90-bedroom Fairfield Manor Hotel in York and the 107-bedroom Grange Park Hotel in Hull. The latter also has a large leisure centre. The pur-

chase of the 62-bedroom Larmouth in Edinburgh depends on the transfer of its liquor licence.

□ America's Hilton Hotel Corporation (HHC) is expected to announce today in London the purchase of a 5 per cent stake in Ladbrooke, owner of Hilton International.

Peter George, chief executive of Ladbrooke and Steve Lembach, the head of HHC, are expected to take seats on the board of each others' company.

They are also expected to give the first details of their worldwide alliance since the announcement last August that the US and British versions of the Hilton brand are to be reunified after more than 30 years apart.

However, the City was less enthusiastic when, in November, Capital unveiled its agreed £57 million cash bid for My Kinda Town, which runs themed restaurants such as Henry J Bean, The Chicago Pizza Pie Factory and The Chicago Rib Shack.

Mr Eye, for his part, admits to feeling a little

bruised by the reaction – the shares fell on the news – but says: "Having had people throw every argument they can think of at me for the past month I emerged from the experience thinking the logic of the deal was even more watertight than when I went into it."

But where is the logic of a radio station running a chain of restaurants? This is not the 1990s, when diversification was the name of the game and the City would back its favourite entrepreneurs for every single bizarre and unrelated venture that took their fancy.

The Radio Café, with its live studio format, is one of two main justifications for the deal. Mr Eye says: "We need to perfect the formula in London in order to have something that we know works to open elsewhere. We're already looking at property near our other radio stations and other radio groups are approaching us."

My Kinda Town has the management contract to operate the Radio Café, and takes a share of the profits. Birmingham is the obvious next destination, to link with Capital's BRMB station there, and other stations in Kent, Sussex and Hampshire should also be suitable.

But the main growth could come from overseas, perhaps in the US with its plethora of local stations. In the UK, My Kinda Town would operate local operators to run the restaurants, a process the company is already well versed at.

The second opportunity to cross-promote between the two will see the Pizza and Rib restaurants, for example, hosting live concerts that are heavily advertised on Capital's local stations "without taking any goodwill out of the account", as Mr Eye puts it. He means that to use radio to push unrelated products risks damaging the station's reputation. But people are already used to planning what they hear on the radio.

"I expect that the City would take time to adjust itself to the deal," he said. "For the most part, it has. There have just been one or two comments that have stung, but they have mainly come from journalists rather than institutions."

## THE TIMES CROSSWORDS

Due to increased costs a small handling charge (circa 25p per box) is included in the prices below for all UK and EU customers. Rest of the World add £1 per item starting at £5.00 (£1=£51.63)

BOOKS at £6.25 (Penguin) (240 puzzles)

The Times Concise Crosswords - Book 2

NEW BOOKS at £5.25 (Times Books)

The 1st Omnibus Book Sunday Times Crosswords

The 2nd Omnibus Book of The Times Jumbo Crosswords

BOOKS at £4.25 (Penguin)

The Times Crosswords - Books 10, 11, 13

The Times Quiz Book 1996 £4.75

Crossword Solvers Dictionary £11.95 (UK only)

NEW Collins Thesaurus (Revised edition) £14.99 (UK only)

### PLUS QUALITY SOFTWARE

#### The Times Computer Crosswords

by David Akenhead

Including optional HSLP levels and TEAM OPTION on 3.5" diskette (circa 60 crosswords on each). (NOTE: numbers bracketed indicate number of diskettes)

The Times Crosswords - 1 to 19 (19)

Omnibus Editions - 1 & 2 (2x2)

The Times Concise Crosswords - 3 to 6 (4)

The Times Two Crosswords - 1 to 5 (5)

The Times Jubilee Puzzles 1932-1987 - (1)

The Sunday Times Titles (various - 21)

PRICES OF SOFTWARE (inc.VAT):

No of diskettes:	Acorn RISC-Os	New Super Windows Version for
	IBM MS-Dos (please specify)	IBM PCs
1	£10.25	£15.00
2	£14.99	£22.00
Additional diskettes:	£5.00	£8.00

Please send cheques or postal orders (no credit cards) payable to Atom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Enquiries: 0181 852 4575 (24 hours). Delivery up to 8 days (UK)

## Independence is safer route

There are four possible reasons for the higher yields on UK bonds compared with those of potential EMU members. First, UK economic growth in both nominal and real terms is stronger than in continental Europe. Consequently our output gap is smaller and so we face an earlier and more sustained tightening of monetary policy than the rest of Europe. Secondly, as continental countries scramble to qualify for EMU their fiscal policies are generally tighter than in the UK. Thirdly, the impending change of UK government may mean there is an excessive political risk premium attached to gilts. Finally, the markets may perceive the EMU policy regime will be more "credible" than that of an independent UK.

UK bond yields would be lower if the UK joined EMU.

However, this does not establish the case for EMU membership. That depends on why EMU membership causes UK yields to fall.

One risk is that the pursuit

of EMU membership results in policies that lead to slower growth and/or higher inflation. There is no point in having lower yields to achieve lower yields. The point of lower yields is to enhance growth. At the very least the UK should wait until its economic cycle is back in sync with the rest of Europe.

However, the problem may be more fundamental, relating to the undesirability of linking the UK economic policy and performance more closely to that in Europe over a long period of time. Europe appears to have more deeply seated structural fiscal problems than the UK.

Those relate to both its high levels of government debt and greater unfunded pension liabilities. These problems will

impose constraints on European fiscal policy for decades to come. The resultant fiscal policy may not be appropriate or desirable for the UK. At the margin the sustainable long-term growth rate of the UK may be faster outside EMU than inside. There is also a question mark against the long-term credibility of the euro vis-à-vis sterling. The euro will not in its initial stages be a quasi-mark any more than the European Central Bank (ECB) will be a quasi-Bundeskbank with 50-year track record. The ECB will have to establish its credibility.

European Monetary Institute (EMI) officials have indicated that it may be necessary initially to run an overly tight or inflexible monetary policy in the ECB's early years to establish the euro's hard currency status.

The problem with the likely policy regime in the early days of EMU is that it may not only prove inappropriate but may prove to be unsustainable.

There are already signs of "austerity fatigue" in Europe. One route to easing these tensions will be fiscal slippage. Once countries have joined the EMU club it may be difficult to enforce the sanctions of the "stability pact", especially if a large group of countries are finding the fiscal constraints of EMU difficult to live with. At face value there ought to be a higher fiscal risk premium attached to euro yields than independent gilt yields.

An alternative or complementary way to deal with the unsustainability of the early EMU regime may be a looser monetary policy and currency depreciation. Again the risks of such a policy mix should attach at least as high a risk premium to euro yields as to independent gilt yields. Given that European fiscal policy will also be tight, there is a distinct danger that at the inception of EMU the overall stance of macro policy will be too tight in relation to the output gaps seen in the European economy.

Advocates would regard this as the short-term price of long-term credibility. However there would seem to be little benefit to the UK in linking itself to this inappropriate policy regime. At the very least it may be better to wait to see if credibility is established and EMU is sustainable.

As things stand there is no case for early entry to a euro policy regime both because the euro lacks track record and credibility, and because the euro policy regime is unlikely to be appropriate to the current needs of the UK economy. It is not even clear that there is a long-term case for membership. A UK policy regime based on an independent inflation target and a clear fiscal framework may be at least as credible as that in the euro.

Independence also avoids the risks to growth associated with pursuit of EMU membership. The price may be higher gilt yields but, if the result is higher growth and the avoidance of European policy confusion, it will be a price well worth paying.

16/1/97.

HAPPY  
NEW  
CAREER.

See the 36-page Appointments section  
this Thursday in The Times

http://www.the-times.co.uk CHANGING TIMES

**RESPONSE TAILORING**  
2pc Suits from £895  
Blazers from £895  
Shirts from £25

**MADE-TO-MEASURE TAILORING**  
2pc Suits from £995

**BLADES of SAVILE ROW**



# Having a ball with Shirley and the Saxons

First, a plea. Could somebody arrange for Shirley Bassey to be 60 every Saturday night? Please. Happy Birthday Shirley (ITV) was delicious and far too good to be limited to one-off. If the Queen can have two birthdays, surely Shirley is good for half a dozen. My one regret was that the camp completeness of *Slave to the Rhythm* — lots of slaves, Shirley's very own brand of rhythm — meant the song had to be prerecorded and therefore couldn't include cutaway shots of the celebrity audience. Shame, it'd love to know what Michael Heseltine and John Prescott made of the choreography.

Now, on with the serious business. Dramatising the 12th century presents programme-makers with two enormous obstacles. The first is lamour. *Monty Python, The Two Ronnies*, even early *Blackadder* — they and others have all had a satirical pop at the 1100s, so

that it is almost impossible to take the century seriously. Last night, as Aethelstan slumped and burped his way through episode one of *Ivanhoe* (BBC1), I was constantly reminded of Ronnie Barker. If this was the future of the Saxon nation, no wonder the Normans were looking smug.

The other problem for the 12th century is Lincoln-green. If a drama begins with a caption reminding you that Richard the Lionheart is in an Austrian prison while his brother John is plotting to seize the English throne, what do most people think they are in for? *William Tell?* Last night we also had a forest, a fat friar and a very fair maiden: Maid Marion, I presume. The lady, Rowena.

The added complexity is that, as I recall, *Ivanhoe* does eventually turn into *Robin Hood*. But we can sort that out when we get there. Last night it was all we could do to get through Rowena's betrothal

banquet without giggling. Helped by restrained performances from James Cosmo as Cedric, Ivanhoe's father, and Claran Hinds, as Sir Brian de Bois-Guilbert. I just about managed it. Touch and go amid the a-wassailing, though.

Having spent most of the episode disguised as a pilgrim, Steven Waddington has yet to make his mark in the title role, but his romantic dilemma is shaping up nicely. The battle of the plait will be between Victoria Smurfit's beautiful but occasionally Irish-sounding Rowena and Susan Lynch's beautiful and not at all Irish-sounding Rebecca. Some criss-crossers have all the luck.

(TV, last night), have a lot in common. For just as Cedric was keen to be shot of his spirited ward, so Arthur Conway, sweet-makr and drunken philanderer, was anxious to get his independent-minded daughter married off. "I'm not saying you're plain, but it's your attitude to men — you're not getting any younger." Agnes is 22.

Agnes, of course, is not plain either. Played by Claire Skinner, she's pretty enough to turn the head of any rich young man who might wander into her father's sweetshop in search of sugar mice. Enter Charles Farrier (Edward Atterton) and enter a pre-First World-War love story just about charming enough to make up for dialogue that made me wince at times, and sets and locations straight out of Christmas cards.

It was all so laboured. "Penworth" inquired Agnes as two urchins haggled over the toffee crisp. "Haporth," they decided, exiting with two beautifully wrapped paper cones and "Merry Christmas" all round. With that, our heroine was off down the not very dangerous-looking quays to inform the Feltons that her father had just taken a shovel to young Robbie. He'd been seeing Jessie, Agnes's younger and sillier sister. Seeing? "Do I have to say more?"

Women's rights and the benefits of contraception were the moral messages rammed home, especially by Farrier's splendid Aunt Nessie (Moira Redmond), who dropped in from Paris to warn her pregnant niece about the dangers of "producing children like piglets" and her uniformed nephew about what was coming next: "War, dear boy, war."

The changes to Friday night are so considerable that it is going to take a couple of weeks to decide whether it still constitutes a compulsory night-in. On paper, *Wilderness Walks* (BBC2) looked a good variation on therapeutic television, with Cameron McNeish taking a celebrity on a long and exhausting walk and having a bit of a chat on the way. In practice, it comes down to whether you want to be stuck halfway up Ben MacDui with the likes of Chris Brasher or not. Close call.

On Channel 4, *Dressing for Breakfast* returned, with Beatie Edney looking rather more svelte than she did before Hollyoaks' splendid Aunt Nessie (Moira Redmond), who dropped in from Paris to warn her pregnant niece about the dangers of "producing children like piglets" and her uniformed nephew about what was coming next: "War, dear boy, war."

*Penworth* is going to be a couple of weeks to decide whether it still constitutes a compulsory night-in. On paper, *Wilderness Walks* (BBC2) looked a good variation on therapeutic television, with Cameron McNeish taking a celebrity on a long and exhausting walk and having a bit of a chat on the way. In practice, it comes down to whether you want to be stuck halfway up Ben MacDui with the likes of Chris Brasher or not. Close call.

Women's rights and the benefits

## REVIEW



Matthew Bond

either. Played by Claire Skinner, she's pretty enough to turn the head of any rich young man who might wander into her father's sweetshop in search of sugar mice. Enter Charles Farrier (Edward Atterton) and enter a pre-First World-War love story just about charming enough to make up for dialogue that made me wince at times, and sets and locations straight out of Christmas cards.

It was all so laboured. "Penworth" inquired Agnes as two urchins haggled over the toffee crisp. "Haporth," they decided, exiting with two beautifully wrapped paper cones and "Merry Christmas" all round. With that, our heroine was off down the not very dangerous-looking quays to inform the Feltons that her father had just taken a shovel to young Robbie. He'd been seeing Jessie, Agnes's younger and sillier sister. Seeing? "Do I have to say more?"

Women's rights and the benefits

of contraception were the moral

messages rammed home, especially by Farrier's splendid Aunt Nessie (Moira Redmond), who dropped in from Paris to warn her pregnant niece about the dangers of "producing children like piglets" and her uniformed nephew about what was coming next: "War, dear boy, war."

The changes to Friday night

are so considerable that it is

going to take a couple of

weeks to decide whether it still

constitutes a compulsory night-in.

On paper, *Wilderness Walks*

(BBC2) looked a good variation

on therapeutic television, with

Cameron McNeish taking a celeb-

ity on a long and exhausting walk

and having a bit of a chat on the

way. In practice, it comes down to

whether you want to be stuck half-

way up Ben MacDui with the likes

of Chris Brasher or not. Close call.

Women's rights and the benefits

of contraception were the moral

messages rammed home, especially

by Farrier's splendid Aunt

Nessie (Moira Redmond), who

dropped in from Paris to warn her

pregnant niece about the dangers

of "producing children like piglets"

and her uniformed nephew about

what was coming next: "War, dear

boy, war."

The changes to Friday night

are so considerable that it is

going to take a couple of

weeks to decide whether it still

constitutes a compulsory night-in.

On paper, *Wilderness Walks*

(BBC2) looked a good variation

on therapeutic television, with

Cameron McNeish taking a celeb-

ity on a long and exhausting walk

and having a bit of a chat on the

way. In practice, it comes down to

whether you want to be stuck half-

way up Ben MacDui with the likes

of Chris Brasher or not. Close call.

Women's rights and the benefits

of contraception were the moral

messages rammed home, especially

by Farrier's splendid Aunt

Nessie (Moira Redmond), who

dropped in from Paris to warn her

pregnant niece about the dangers

of "producing children like piglets"

and her uniformed nephew about

what was coming next: "War, dear

boy, war."

The changes to Friday night

are so considerable that it is

going to take a couple of

weeks to decide whether it still

constitutes a compulsory night-in.

On paper, *Wilderness Walks*

(BBC2) looked a good variation

on therapeutic television, with

Cameron McNeish taking a celeb-

ity on a long and exhausting walk

and having a bit of a chat on the

way. In practice, it comes down to

whether you want to be stuck half-

way up Ben MacDui with the likes

of Chris Brasher or not. Close call.

Women's rights and the benefits

of contraception were the moral

messages rammed home, especially

by Farrier's splendid Aunt

Nessie (Moira Redmond), who

dropped in from Paris to warn her

pregnant niece about the dangers

of "producing children like piglets"

and her uniformed nephew about

what was coming next: "War, dear

boy, war."

The changes to Friday night

are so considerable that it is

going to take a couple of

weeks to decide whether it still

constitutes a compulsory night-in.

On paper, *Wilderness Walks*

(BBC2) looked a good variation

on therapeutic television, with

Cameron McNeish taking a celeb-

ity on a long and exhausting walk

and having a bit of a chat on the

way. In practice, it comes down to

whether you want to be stuck half-

way up Ben MacDui with the likes

of Chris Brasher or not. Close call.

Women's rights and the benefits

of contraception were the moral

messages rammed home, especially

by Farrier's splendid Aunt

Nessie (Moira Redmond), who

dropped in from Paris to warn her

pregnant niece about the dangers

of "producing children like piglets"

and her uniformed nephew about

what was coming next: "War, dear

boy, war."

The changes to Friday night

are so considerable that it is

going to take a couple of

weeks to decide whether it still

constitutes a compulsory night-in.

On paper, *Wilderness Walks*

(BBC2) looked a good variation

on therapeutic television, with

Cameron McNeish taking a celeb-

ity on a long and exhausting walk

and having a bit of a chat on the

way. In practice, it comes down to

whether you want to be stuck half-

way up Ben MacDui with the likes

of Chris Brasher or not. Close call.

Women's rights and the benefits

of contraception were the moral

messages rammed home, especially

by Farrier's splendid Aunt

Nessie (Moira Redmond), who

dropped in from Paris to warn her

pregnant niece about the dangers

of "producing children like piglets"

and her uniformed nephew about

what was coming next: "War, dear

boy, war."

The changes to Friday night

## NAZI GOLD 42

The legacy that threatens secrecy in Swiss banking

## BUSINESS

MONDAY JANUARY 13 1997

## PRESSURE 40

Firms fear the force of lobbyists

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

## Institute of Directors calls for increase in interest rates

BY PHILIP BASSETT  
INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

**COMPANY** directors will today urge the Government and the Bank of England to agree a rise in interest rates this week as their latest evidence from business shows strong economic growth coupled with an increase in inflationary pressures.

The call for higher interest rates, aimed at choking off any resurgence in inflation, comes from the Institute of Directors before the monthly monetary policy meeting between the Treasury and the

Bank on Wednesday. With new unemployment figures the same day expected to show a further fall in jobless benefit claimants and continuing evidence of strong consumer spending, expectation is high that Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, will agree a further increase in rates.

Political considerations are likely to favour a rise well before a general election, and this week's meeting comes after the Howard Davies, the Deputy Governor, last week restated the Bank's

belief that interest rates will have to go up again.

Based on its latest business opinion survey published today, the free-market Institute of Directors — which in common with business generally, traditionally favours lower interest rates — suggests that a new rise may now be necessary.

Ruth Lea, IoD policy head, says: "With inflationary pressures building up — albeit gently — we are looking for some modest increases in interest rates this year."

"Moreover, I would recommend, and I expect on balance, a small increase in

base rates after this week's meeting between the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England."

New survey evidence today shows employers' demand for temporary workers is at an all-time high, although their need for permanent employees is falling. The clear indication of changes in the UK labour market comes before this week's announcement of the latest unemployment figures. Ministers hope the seasonally adjusted count of unemployed claimants will show a further fall, although privately they accept it is

unlikely to match last month's record drop of 95,800.

New figures from Reed, the recruitment agency, show that demand for temporary staff is at a record high, rising by a third year on year.

Looking at the final quarter of 1996, Reed's temporary index shows an eight-point rise over three months, almost two-thirds higher than the peak of the 1980s' economic boom. But despite the climbing demand for temporary workers, employers' needs for permanent staff are falling. The company's permanent index shows a

three-point fall over the quarter — the first drop in the index for two years.

Fund managers are betting on a strong British economy and investing in commercial property while shunning shares in UK companies, a survey released today shows (Sarah Cunningham writes). The majority of those polled in January's Merrill Lynch Gallup survey of UK fund managers expect strong economic growth this year and next. This has influenced their preference for commercial property and small companies, which tend to prosper when growth is strong.

## Coach group in Welcome Break bid

BY JASON NISSÉ AND ALASDAIR MURRAY

**NATIONAL EXPRESS**, the privatised coach operator, is one of the six shortlisted bidders for Welcome Break, the motorway services business being sold by Granada for an expected £380 million.

The attempt to buy Welcome Break is a radical diversification for National Express, which was sold to its management as a long distance coach operator but has moved into rail and airports since it was floated four years ago. Its recent offer for Birmingham Airport was rejected.

National Express will face stiff competition for Welcome Break, which Granada has to sell by April as part of its deal with the Office of Fair Trading, which allowed it to take over Forte in a £3.9 billion bid last year.

Others shortlisted include an investor group led by Michael Guthrie, the former Mecca chief; Cliven, the venture capitalists; and Whitbread, the leisure company which bid for the business while it was owned by Forte.

Gerry Robinson, Granada's chief executive, hopes to announce the sale along with some other disposals at the group's annual meeting on January 29. At the meeting Granada will face a share-

holder revolt over its new executive share-incentive scheme, which could see the company's directors double their salaries, and its refusal to reduce the length of contracts for its executive directors to the one year demanded by institutional investors.

Pirc, the corporate governance lobby group, is urging shareholders to vote against the share plans and also oppose the re-election of Michael Orr, a non-executive director who sits on the remuneration committee. Mr Orr is a director of Lazarus Brothers, Granada's merchant banking adviser, and Pirc does not consider him independent.

Its objections to the share plan are threefold. It does not have a capital commitment by directors, it is for only three years, not five, and it starts paying out if Granada's share performance is just 50th in the FT-SE 100 index of companies.

A number of institutions are expected to support Pirc's moves. Standard Life, the insurer, has a stated principle of opposing directors' contracts of more than one year. This principle was brought in too late for Granada's meeting last year, and this is the first time Standard Life has been able to take up the issue with the company.

Granada is also looking increasingly unlikely to make the City's deadline of the end of January for the sale of the remaining 14 exclusive properties. Further sales are considered unlikely this week despite recent reports that Granada is on the verge of selling the Ritz in Madrid, valued at around £54 million.

If Granada fails to rush through sales next week, the company's share price may come under pressure, although Granada insists that the sell-off remains on course to meet its vague "early 1997" deadline.

Granada also seems to be preparing the City for a U-turn over the sale of the Grosvenor House Hotel, the largest single asset in the exclusive portfolio. The sale of the hotel, which is valued at £320 million, has been complicated by the inclusion of a series of residential flats in the property and the suggestion that the hotel needs around £50 million of repairs.

City analysts believe Granada is capable of doubling profit at the Grosvenor to around £40 million, and the company has begun comparing the hotel to its other catering interests.

UNION leaders at Ford's Halewood car plant on Merseyside will this week try to save 4,500 jobs in the face of mounting speculation that the factory is destined for closure.

Ford managers are to demand tough concessions from the unions at a meeting on Thursday to increase efficiency.

Ford's head office in America is believed to be considering a move of production facilities for the new Escort model from Halewood to continental Europe.

A company spokesman said: "We are going through a tough situation in Europe and we have issues to address. We are looking at all our plants and that includes all those in the UK and that includes Halewood."

The compromise deal proposed by the management in Halewood is thought to include no strike agreement. The cost-cutting measures are designed to make Halewood as efficient as the Ford plant in Dagenham, east London. Failure to achieve this could result

in the new Escort being built in Saarlouis in Germany and Valencia in Spain. Ford has been on Merseyside for more than 35 years.

The US head office had warned of imminent action to cut excess capacity in an effort to stem huge European losses at the Detroit Motor Show last week.

In September Ford told its 30,000 UK workers it wanted to cut 1,000 jobs at its British plants through voluntary redundancies and early retirement. The group recently surprised analysts by unvei-

ling a £279.2 million loss in

Europe in the third quarter of

1996 compared with a £159.1 million profit in the first half.

It has blamed high produc-

tion costs at its European

plants and heavy losses in

South America.

Alec Trotman, Ford's Brit-

ish-born chairman, and Jac

Nasser, head of Ford in

Ireland, said "tough steps"

would be taken soon. The

spokesman yesterday

emphasised that workers

would be consulted before any

decision is taken.

## Magazine with green spin to float

BY JASON NISSÉ

A NEW magazine, aimed at cashing in on the phenomenal growth of the green pound, is to raise £500,000 for its launch through an Ofex flotation.

*What's the Craic?* is due to publish monthly, from May, and is aimed at young people of Irish descent in the UK and Ireland. About 850,000 people in the UK hold Irish passports and the *Irish Post* recently claimed that nearly a fifth of the UK population claims Irish descent.

The magazine is being launched by Brian McHale, the former advertising executive and *Australian Playboy* journalist. He hopes to cash in on the success of the likes of Caffrey's Irish Ale, Riverdance and Irish theme pubs like Scruffy Murphy's and Waxy O'Connor's, which also chase the green pound.

He also defended the anglicised spelling of the Gaelic word "craic", meaning fun. He said the *Irish Post's* entertainment page is called The Craic and the magazine did not want copyright problems.



The value of the green pound is reflected by the enormous success of Riverdance, the show, and its spin-offs

## Ford jobs threat at Halewood

BY OLIVER AUGUST

UNION leaders at Ford's Halewood car plant on Merseyside will this week try to save 4,500 jobs in the face of mounting speculation that the factory is destined for closure.

Ford managers are to demand tough concessions from the unions at a meeting on Thursday to increase efficiency.

Ford's head office in America is believed to be considering a move of production facilities for the new Escort model from Halewood to continental Europe.

A company spokesman said: "We are going through a tough situation in Europe and we have issues to address. We are looking at all our plants and that includes all those in the UK and that includes Halewood."

The compromise deal proposed by the management in Halewood is thought to include no strike agreement. The cost-cutting measures are designed to make Halewood as efficient as the Ford plant in Dagenham, east London. Failure to achieve this could result

in a £279.2 million loss in Europe in the third quarter of 1996 compared with a £159.1 million profit in the first half.

It has blamed high production costs at its European plants and heavy losses in South America.

Alec Trotman, Ford's British-born chairman, and Jac

Nasser, head of Ford in

Ireland, said "tough steps" would be taken soon. The spokesman yesterday emphasised that workers would be consulted before any decision is taken.

JANET BUSH takes a look at the woes of the Japanese economy and assesses their worldwide impact

computing faxing imaging printing

Unbelievably, for the first

time ever, Canon are offering

their best selling Copier

at 50% off. A saving of over

£1400. It only lasts until the

end of January. So if you want

to make the most of this half-

price offer, get a Canon while

you can. For more information

call 0171 312 3249.

Canon copiers.

latest feature,

50% reduction

TI success

TI Group, the engineering specialist, has won \$200 million worth of contracts on the new Bell Boeing 609 tiltrotor aircraft, which is seen as an alternative to ordinary small aircraft. TI's Dowty Aerospace and Messier-Dowty divisions will supply controls and landing gear. The contracts are seen as a stepping stone to participation in the building of a tiltrotor military transport aircraft.

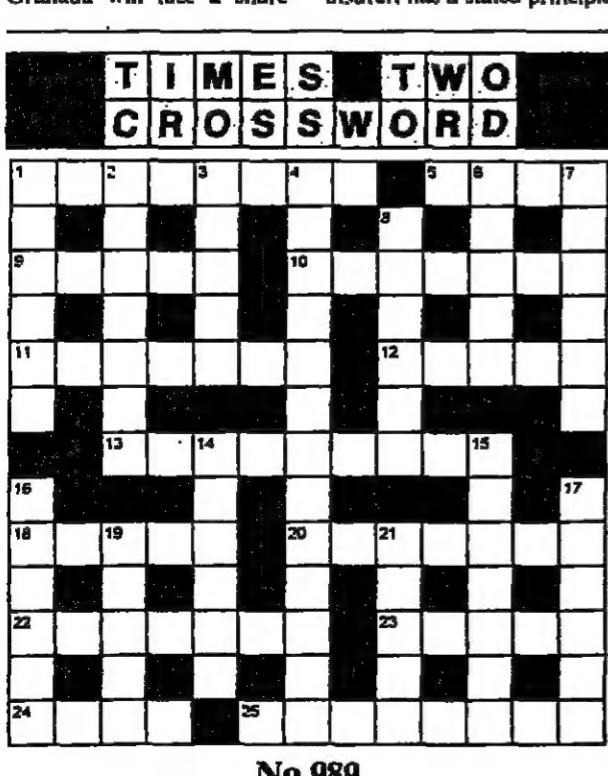
NP 1550 contact your Local Participating Authorised Supplier

If anyone can Canon can

or Phone 0500 801 801

Canon

canon



No 989

DOWN

- 1 Make a difference to (6)
- 2 Vicar-of-Bray type (7)
- 3 Keeping faith (5)
- 4 Beyond compare (3,10)
- 5 Be alive (5)
- 6 From (from obligation) (6)
- 7 Be too clever for (6)
- 8 Dense grove (7)
- 9 Appropriate correctly behaved (6)
- 10 Panic (6)
- 11 Ballet dancer's ruff (5)
- 12 Data ordered in columns (5)

ACROSS

- 1 Swift African ruminant (8)
- 2 Refuse rights (to) (4)
- 3 One of the Little People (5)
- 4 The daily round (7)
- 5 Intricate type of number (maths) (7)
- 6 Rise; learn (subject) (3,2); outfit (3-2)
- 7 Two 200 US presidents (9)
- 8 Disprove (allegation) (5)
- 9 Screen of eg crossed strips (7)
- 10 A helping (7)
- 11 Ton-up type (5)
- 12 Swam grass; ooze mouth part (4)
- 13 Sensing device (8)

SOLUTION TO NO 988

ACROSS: 1 Dumbbell, 2 Racine, 3 Roll/up, 4 Corner, 5 Jagged, 6 Hemp, 7 Debut, 8 Defy, 9 Drury, 10 Hollow, 11 Giggle, 12 Patience, 13 Salome, 14 Buoyant, 15 Eulogise, 16 Lapidary, 17 Hardship, 18 Mongrel, 19 Deploy, 20 Upstage, 21 Paler, 22 A helping, 23 Ton-up, 24 Swam grass, ooze mouth part, 25 Sensing device.

DOWNS: 1 Crossword, 2 Kidnap, 3 Deprive, 4 Buoyant, 5 Eulogise, 6 Lapidary, 7 Hardship, 8 Mongrel, 9 Deploy, 10 Upstage, 11 Salome, 12 Drury, 13 Roll/up, 14 Corner, 15 Jagged, 16 Hemp, 17 Debut, 18 Defy, 19 Hollow, 20 Hollow, 21 Paler, 22 A helping, 23 Ton-up, 24 Swam grass, ooze mouth part, 25 Sensing device.

PRICES INCLUDE DELIVERY TO EU CUSTOMERS (rest of the world add 10 per cent VAT). For other crosswords, Sterling/US Dollars charges apply: £1.10/US \$1.25 each. The Times Crossword Book, 1996 £12.75, Crossword Solver's Dictionary £11.95 (UK only), The First Oxford Book of Crosswords £1.95, The Sunday Times Crossword Book £1.95, The Times Crossword Book £1.95, The Times Junior Crossword Book £1.95 each, The Times Night Star £1.95 £3.75.

TIMES COMPUTER CROSSWORD by David Strelakoff — Crosswords on Computer £3.25 each. Books £10.12 £12.25 each. HELP Level 1 includes Times Crossword Book (1996 £12.75), Crossword Solver's Dictionary £11.95 (UK only), The Times Crossword Book £1.95, The Sunday Times Crossword Book £1.95, The Times Crossword Book £1.95, The Times Junior Crossword Book £1.95 each, The Times Night Star £1.95 £3.75.

Times Jubilee Edition £9.95 £12.25 each. Includes Advertisers' Supplement.

Price per issue £3.25 £4.25 each. £3.25 each (inc VAT).

IBM PC/XT/AT, 386/486, 286, 20Mhz, 25Mhz, 33Mhz, 40Mhz, 48Mhz, 50Mhz, 60Mhz, 70Mhz, 80Mhz, 90Mhz, 100Mhz, 120Mhz, 130Mhz, 140Mhz, 150Mhz, 160Mhz, 170Mhz, 180Mhz, 190Mhz, 200Mhz, 210Mhz, 220Mhz, 230Mhz, 240Mhz, 250Mhz, 260Mhz, 270Mhz, 280Mhz, 290Mhz, 300Mhz, 310Mhz, 320Mhz, 330Mhz, 340Mhz, 350Mhz, 360Mhz, 370Mhz, 380Mhz, 390Mhz, 400Mhz, 410Mhz, 420Mhz, 430Mhz, 440Mhz, 450Mhz, 460Mhz, 470Mhz, 480Mhz, 490Mhz, 500Mhz, 510Mhz, 520Mhz, 530Mhz, 540Mhz, 550Mhz,

# Captain's log: Branson charts his balloon flight



Back on terra firma: Richard Branson calling on a mobile phone after Virgin Challenger landed in the desert in Algeria. Earlier, he ignored desperate attempts by his command centre to contact him as the balloon plummeted

**'Hurtling down, seconds left, we soar up again'**

JANUARY 7: LAUNCH

06.00: Woke up after five hours sleep. God knows when I will sleep again. I hear the distant sound of the dawn muezzin: the Muslim call to prayers. A good omen.

06.10: I telephone Tim Evans, my doctor, to check on Roy. He can't fly.

06.45: Ring Alex [Ritchie] to confirm he is on. He has brought only enough clothes for one day. I agree to lend him a spare set of underpants and glasses.

06.50: Write a letter to Holly and Sam [Mr Branson's children]. Life seems rather unreal at times. Alive and well and loving one day, and no longer the next." I ask Tim to give it to them if we don't come back.

06.00: Everyone has gone to the launch site. Holly has not left; my son has had 24 hours. She is a jewel.

06.45: My first glimpse of the balloon. An awesome sight, towering above the city.

09.00: We sweep into the airfield. Half the Moroccan National Guard seems to have turned out in our honour.

10.15: It is hard to say goodbye to Dad whose eyes are filled with tears. He is 79. Mother, as usual, is as strong as an ox but presses into my hand a letter to open six days into the flight. She is being sentimental at last. Holly is as ever smiling and happy. Sam is enthralled. At last they are old enough to understand and enjoy my adventures. Then Sam breaks down. It is one of the hardest moments.

10.50: We enter the cabin and strap in. After 18 months of preparation I have a gut feeling it is going to be a success. I try to ignore the growing sense of apprehension.

11.15: Per begins the countdown. "Ten, nine, eight" — I barely heard him say "one" as the explosive bolts are released. The whole thing shakes and twists. It feels like it is going up incredibly fast. This is the most dangerous time. My hand is on the lever of my parachute.

11.25: At 1,000ft, 2,000ft. I look out the hatch door which is still open. The snow-capped Atlas Mountains are rising up to greet us. At 10,000ft we shut the hatch. We reach 30,000ft.

12.05: We start to descend. We study the diaries. We fall 500ft the first minute, 600ft the next.

Not too worried. We burn more propane. Still cannot halt the descent 800ft, 950ft, 1,250ft a minute. Something



16.40: Fantastic news. A new fax. The Algerians have only one concern: we might be cold. They wish us luck.

18.00: Per starts the burners, at 30,000ft, to keep the helium warm to maintain altitude.

19.05: We start to descend. We study the diaries. We fall 500ft the first minute, 600ft the next.

Not too worried. We burn more propane. Still cannot halt the descent 800ft, 950ft, 1,250ft a minute. Something

is spilling out. Something is terribly wrong. I throw out food, water supplies, anything I can lay my hands on. Oil cans next. Our supplies are gone. The dream is over. I just want to live. We level out for a few minutes. The descent resumes. I have cheated death 11 times. My life no longer flashes before me. I just want to get us out of this.

19.10: We begin dumping ballast, big cubes of lead weight. They are working fast. They disappear like bombs. We continue falling. But we are falling faster, not slower.

19.15: At 12,000ft we are falling at 2,000ft a minute. At this rate we will hit the ground in minutes. No one panics. I'm desperately looking for rope to tie round Alex. He straps on his parachute. I ask: "Have you parachuted before?" My god. He hasn't.

19.15: At 12,000ft we depressurise and manage to open the glass-topped hatch. I feel my ears pop. I am dimly aware that the satellite phone and fax are furiously ringing. Per shouts: "Dump everything."

19.30: We have cleared the mountains into Algeria as the sun rises. The scenery is breathtaking. Pure Lawrence of Arabia. Beautiful dawn rich sun rising across the desert. It is a parched wilderness. We are dropping at 300ft a minute. I don't want it to end.

07.00: Coming in to land. Turn the cameras back on. We hurdle across a low crop of mountains. Nothing in sight.

07.15: We come in with a bump at 250ft a minute. It was a solid bone-shaking landing. The second we hit the ground, Per releases the explosive bolts and the balloon wafts into the air. Alex is screaming with joy. We throw our arms round each other. We feel like we have landed on the moon. We dance arm in arm around the capsule.

07.30: I remember the civil war in Algeria when I see four turbanned dots approaching. I shook hands with each of the men, who bowed and said: "Allah." I said very firmly to each: "Allah." One or two other nomads appeared but ran away. I felt like I had landed on the moon. They had never seen a balloon before.

07.50: An official, with an armed guard, approaches. He speaks good English. We ask for the armed guard to wait with us. We get on the satellite phone. Alex first. Then me. Joan answers. She is thrilled. I speak to Holly and Sam. I am looking forward to seeing them tonight.

09.45: We hear the roar of three helicopter gunships overhead. Rescue is at hand. Men with machineguns spew out. I am convinced they are friends. The local governor has invited us for lunch. We politely decline. We want to go home. The

Richard Branson kept a diary of his attempt to circumnavigate the globe in a balloon, which failed after 20 hours. The forced landing of the *Breitling Orbiter* yesterday underlines the difficulties that Mr Branson was facing. He wrote the log before the launch of the *Virgin Challenger*, during quiet moments in the capsule, and in Algeria. He completed it on his return to London. This is an edited version of the diary.

"Thank God you're with us, Alex."

19.25: The needle goes down, steadies, turns and starts to rise. It touches 19,000ft. We start twisting. We steady. We start dropping again. We bleed fuel from one of the other propane tanks. It settles again at 10,000ft.

19.45: We have still not spoken to command centre. Something bizarre is happening. The temperature outside is freezing but the balloon starts to rise.

23.00: Decide against sending a message back to base. I don't want them alerted until I know my family is safely asleep and we are over the worst.

To Dad  
I hope you have a great time.  
Safe journeys lots + lots of love  
yours Son Sam  
XX ♥ XX

Sam Branson sneaked a message into his father's diary

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. Midland's mortgages are subject to security and status. A charge will be taken over the property and appropriate life policies. For a written quotation call 0800 494 999. Lines open Sun-Sat Mon-Fri. Midland Bank plc is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and only advises on its own life assurance, pension and unit trusts. Megan is a fictional character but her story is based on a real Midland customer BN/22



Meet Megan.

Megan's reading a booklet that carefully explains the whole process of buying a house.

Megan's buying a house — well actually in her case it's a ground floor flat. Like most people, she was finding the whole process quite overwhelming, but last week she phoned for a free Midland guide and is now feeling pretty confident. It contains details on everything from making an offer to getting the right mortgage. So if you're thinking of buying a house why not call us and ask for one of our guides (there's one especially for first-time buyers). In due course we'll also send you information about our latest mortgage packages which, like our guides, are designed to make buying a house as easy as possible.



She called  
0800 100 129.



For more information, complete and return the coupon to: Midland Mortgages.

FREEPOST BS4335, Bristol, BS1 3YX

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

TIMES 1/2

Are you looking to move before Easter?  Yes  No. Are you a first-time buyer?  Yes  No. Are you a Midland customer?  Yes  No.

If so, please fill in your sort code: 401 / \_\_\_\_\_ Are you happy to receive information from Midland in the future?  Yes  No.

We land safely and dance for joy

JANUARY 8



Virgin Challenger: nomads who saw it land in Algeria ran away

colonel asks for our passports. I graciously accept the invitation.

10.20: Driven in an armed motorcade, with sirens wailing, through traffic lights and road blocks. We think it is going to be a 20-minute journey. Three hours later we arrive at the governor's home, which is like an armed fortress.

13.20: Alex is right. The Algerians are being hospitable. We will never be there again. We should make the most of it.

13.30: Lunch. We had been out of phone contact for hours. One consolation at least. Going to the loo. I should have known better. It was a hole in the ground and there was no toilet paper. Then we get a message that our chase plane had tracked us down. They are given permission to land 80 miles away. A helicopter is coming to pick us up. At last we are going home.

15.30: We made it on to the plane, clicked our seatbelts on, when a colonel came on board and announced: "No one is

© Richard Branson

## Speedy whale leaves scientists trailing in its wake

By NICK NUTTALL

THE fastest whale in the world may be a humpback that has astonished scientists by making a record-breaking migration from Alaska to Hawaii, covering 2,775 miles in 39 days.

Normally whales take an average of 102 days to make the trip. But this one — known only as 339 — cut the average time by 63 days.

Jane Straley, one of the scientists who documented the feat, said yesterday: "Other fast migrations we have had are 79 to 80 days — but nothing as fast as this."

The record-breaking dash



is even the more surprising given that humpbacks are not the greyhounds of the sea. "If you took at other baleen whales like the blue, fin or sei, they are sleek. But humpbacks are rotund with knobs on and look like a slug rather than a bullet when they are swimming," Ms Straley, of the University of Alaska South East, said.

Peter Evans, a whale ex-

pert at the zoology department of Oxford University, said yesterday: "It's a very fast time. Quite spectacular."

The swim was discovered

by Alaskan and Hawaiian

scientists researching into the north Pacific humpbacks which feed off capelin, herring, krill and plankton off southeast Alaska before mi-

grating to the warm waters of the Hawaiian islands to breed.

Humpbacks make the journey because the waters near the Arctic are rich in food but the young are born with little or no fat. They are less likely to survive in the cold waters of Alaska," said Ms Straley, whose team's findings are published in *Marine Mammal Science*.

Long-term monitoring has shown that the estimated 900 humpbacks off southeast Alaska can be told apart by unique black and white patterns on the underside of their tail flukes.

"It is unlikely that the whale was photographed on the last day it was present in

Alaskan waters nor on the first day it arrived in Hawaii," the team says.

The record for the longest swim by a man is held by Fred Newton who, in 1930, swam 1,825 miles along the Mississippi River, spending 30.91 days in the water and averaging 24 mph. But unlike 339, Mr Newton had numerous rests and the journey was staged over five and a half months.

Humpbacks and other baleen whales such as grays can reach speeds in excess of 35 mph.

David Withrow of the National Marine Mammal Laboratory in Seattle, Wash-

ington, said toothed whales, such as orcas, and other marine mammals such as dolphins could reach about 40 mph.

But these speeds are in short dashes and the mammals do not go on long migrations. Humpbacks make one of the longest documented migrations of a marine mammal, underlining the achievement of 339's trip.

The scientists believe the finding may have important consequences for the conservation of the north Pacific humpbacks, *Megaptera novaeangliae*.

It may be that this whale is

unique or that other humpbacks make fast migrations too but have never been seen.

If other whales in the area are making such journeys, it means humpbacks are in Alaskan waters for at least nine months of the year.

So there should be tougher controls on drift net fishermen and companies that carry out blasting to build harbours, experts believe.

As for the record-breaking whale 339, its whereabouts are now unknown.

"I have only seen the whale once — but the whale has also been seen in Mexico. He or she gets around," Ms Straley said.

**Man fled cleaver killer in vain**

By LIN JENKINS

A BUSINESSMAN was repeatedly hit about the head with a meat cleaver as he ran through his home, trying in vain to escape his murderer police disclosed yesterday.

Keith Forster, who owed money to creditors, struggled to flee the attack after being set upon in his kitchen on Friday. Police say that blood was splattered throughout his bungalow in Stevenage End, Essex. They believe his killer used a meat cleaver from among Mr Forster's kitchen knives. Mr Forster was a keen cook.

Mr Forster, 52, had financial worries and had recently given up his interest in a local winebar. His catering supplies company had closed and he had debts of thousands of pounds. His marriage had broken down recently, with his wife taking their daughters to live ten miles away.

Detective Superintendent Clive Seal said: "This was a frenzied attack, and the worst of its kind I have seen." He appealed to anyone who might have seen someone covered in blood to contact the police.

Initial inquiries will focus on Mr Forster's business associates. Police say that since there was no sign of a break-in, he could have known his murderer. He was found by his girlfriend when she arrived home on Friday evening.

## Wrinkle evidence gives a new line of attack on smokers

By NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

PROOF that smoking makes people look older than their years has been found by scientists studying the skin of identical twins.

The skin of regular smokers is up to 40 per cent thinner than the skin of genetically identical sisters and brothers who do not smoke. It means that long-term smokers are more likely to have wrinkles and other cosmetic signs of ageing than someone who has shunned cigarettes, cigars and pipes.

The findings, by a team at St Thomas's Hospital in London, offer health campaigners and the anti-smoking lobby a new and potentially powerful weapon in the education war against tobacco use, especially among the young.

A spokesman for the Health Education Authority said: "If health warnings about dying don't reach youngsters, maybe we can appeal to their vanity. We know that young people respond to images relating to their personal attractiveness."

A third of young women in Britain aged 16 to 24 are regular smokers, an increase of 5 per cent since 1994. Among young men of the same age, 34 per cent smoke. Twelve per cent of children

aged 11 to 15, and a third of those aged 15, are smokers.

Dr Tim Spector, head of the Twin Research Unit at St Thomas's, said yesterday:

"Most young kids don't listen to warnings about lung cancer but they might be worried if they thought they were going to look older."

The findings have come from a study of twins as part of a wide-ranging research into disease and genetics. The scientist found 25 pairs of identical twins where one twin has smoked and the other has not.

In theory, any difference between an identical twin should be due to their environment and lifestyles rather than being genetic. A new ultrasound technique was used to gauge their inner arm skin thickness.

It was found that the smokers' skins were an average of a quarter thinner than the non-smokers. In a few cases there were differences of up to 40 per cent.

The damage is highlighted by Morey Cornick and Carol Deller, identical twins aged 57.

The scientists found that Morey, who has smoked since her teens, but has not considered a heavy smoker, had skin just 0.57mm thick, in comparison

with a measurement of 0.91mm for her sister. Special imprints of her face found that Morey's face had more wrinkles and fewer pores.

Dr Veronique Bataille, the dermatologist involved in the tests, said that there were several theories to explain the results: "Smoking can affect the blood supply to the top layer of skin and that would damage it."

"Another way is that a chemical released in the skin after you smoke can release an enzyme that breaks down collagen and elastic tissue."

Smoking might also damage the genetic material in skin cells, which could in turn affect the skin's properties, she said.

Dr Spector added: "It's always been known from observation that smoking makes you age more quickly but this has never been demonstrated in much scientific detail before. Doctors say they can recognise smokers' faces because they look more wrinkled and haggard."

"The message from this research is, before you take up smoking, think whether you want to look much older than you are, and have weaker and more wrinkly skin."

Police and sheriff's officers move on the stockaded camp in the way of a £65 million road scheme

## Night raid destroys road protesters' camp

THIRTEEN road protesters were arrested yesterday after a nine-hour operation to clear their camp from the path of a £65 million road scheme. Twelve were among demonstrators who had locked themselves into tunnels and bunkers on a stockaded hilltop and the

thirteenth was held for non-payment of fines. A hundred police and 45 sheriff's officers took part in the nine-hour operation, which started at 3.30am. Once the tunnels had been cleared with the help of underground specialists, heavy machinery made them unusable.

The Trolbeim camp was one of three built to oppose a 13-mile scheme between Easter and Honiton. The first camp, at Allercome, was cleared on December 27. Trevor Coleman, the under-sheriff of Devon, would not say when the last camp, at Fairmile, would be cleared.

COMPUTING WITHOUT LIMITS



HERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE YOU'LL NOTICE A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OUR MEMORY AND THE SYSTEM MANUFACTURER'S.

It's a little-known fact. Kingston® memory has exactly the same components, technology, and specifications as the leading workstation manufacturer's memory. Yet it costs up to 50% less. Maybe that's why more and more computing professionals are choosing Kingston, the memory specialists. After all, Kingston is the world's leading manufacturer of memory. Our engineers customize the design of each module according to the specifications set by workstation

manufacturers. In fact, Kingston has licensing agreements with Sun Microsystems® and Silicon Graphics® plus service agreements with DEC® and IBM®. And just to prove how confident we are in our memory, we give it a lifetime warranty. To find out the name of a Kingston® value-added reseller call Kingston Technology on 0800 008 006. You'll find that our memory is the same as your manufacturer's in every way, except one: the price.

**KINGSTON**

Country	Address	Postcode	Telephone
Name			Fax Number
Postcode			Telex number
Number of PCs entitled to memory			

For more information call us on 0800 008 006 or look for Kingston on the Net <http://www.kingston.com>

© 1996 Kingston Technology Company, Inc., Redwood City, California, USA. T960202 001975 7/9600, Rev 02/02/21 10/96.

"My partner and I have found the TSB to be constantly supportive and helpful. Their competitive rates, professional and friendly approach and their constant availability leaves me in no doubt that we have made the right banking choice."

JDA Ford, Greenbank Veterinary Clinic.

"We have used the TSB for business banking for eight years. The Bank provides a very efficient, accurate personal service at competitive rates. It is a pleasure to bank with TSB. Thank you for your friendly first class service."

SES Hearnshaw B.D.S., The Dental Partnership, Hull.

To be put in contact with a TSB Business Banking Manager telephone 0345 668 668.

**Business Banking**

**TSB** We want you to say YES

TSB Bank plc, Registered office: Victoria House, Victoria Square, Birmingham B1 1BZ. Registered in England and Wales. Number 1059268.

Millennium is scaled